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AN HISTORICAL MEMOIR
OF
THE FAMILY OF
POHER, POER, OR POWER.

WITH

Family

AN ACCOUNT OF

THE BARONY OF LE POWER AND COROGHMORE,
COUNTY WATERFORD.

BY

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THE FAMILY OF
POHER, POER, OR POWER.

Arms.

- POWER, BARON OF DONOYLE, A.D. 1273.—Arg. on a chief indented sa., three lions rampant of the first.
 POWER, OF CURRAGHMORE.—Arg. a chief indented, sa. Supporters—Two angels ppr. vested, arg. crined, and winged, or, each holding in the exterior hand a sword ppr., pummels and hilts or.
 POWER, OF KILFANE.—Arg. a bend, engr., gu. between two foxes' heads erased, ppr.; on a chief of the second three escallops, of the field.
 COLONEL MILO POWER, OF CARRIGHPHILIP, ob. 1677.—Arg., a bend, engr., gu.; on a chief of the last, three escallops of the field.

*Crests.*

- CURRAGHMORE.—A stag's head, cabossed, ppr., attired, or, between attires a crucifix, ppr.
 KILFANE.—A stag's head, erased, ppr.
 KILBOLINE.—A stag's head, coupé, sa.
 CARRIGLINE.—A stag's head, cabossed arg., attired, or, between attires a crucifix ppr.

Mottos.

- "Nil Nisi Cruce."
 "Per Crucem ad Coronam."
 "Pro Patria Semper."

THE FAMILY OF POHER, POER, OR POWER.

PART I.



THE study of the history of the Anglo-Norman families, and of the titles and honours conferred upon them in the Middle Ages, is one, to my thinking, full of interest and charm—an exemplification of the Latin proverb, "Utile dulce"—combining as it does, a pleasing occupation for a leisure hour along with instructive research.

The Invasion of Ireland, at the close of the twelfth century, under Strongbow, Raymond le Gros, and Maurice Fitzgerald, and their dauntless followers (a period at which the brave and ancient Celtic race, for the first time on Irish soil, found themselves opposed in battle to mail-clad knights of Norman blood and renown), and subsequently its annexation to the Crown of England by Henry II.—have marked an era in the history of Ireland, and brought about a change in the laws, the habits, and the customs of the people, which no other event, from the landing of the sons of Milesius of Spain (A.M. 3500, or 1699 B.C.), had effected.

To become acquainted, therefore, with the history of the descendants of Strongbow's commanders, generals, and knights, and of the distinguished barons and knights who came in Henry II.'s train and prosecuted this Anglo-Norman-Celtic campaign 721 years ago, cannot fail to interest all; and, every additional record or tradition relating to them will, I have no doubt, be considered valuable.

I have commenced with (as the title of the paper explains) an account of an honour conferred, in the reign of Henry VIII., on the ancient and distinguished House of Poher, or Power, Esqrs. of Curraghmore, Co. Waterford, in the person of Sir Richard Power, Knight. I will enhance the interest attaching to the subject, to give some account of a

family remarkable in many ways in the past, and of which innumerable records of the prowess and courage of its members exist. It can boast of many warriors, of large and well-won territorial grants, and of honours and titles conferred upon it. Among these dignities I may enumerate the following:—

1. *Barony by Tenure.*¹—Amongst the most ancient feudal peers of Ireland was Poer, who, in almost every writ from the Crown, had the addition of Baron of Donoye attached to the family name. Towards the end of the fourteenth, and the commencement of the fifteenth, century, a revision of the Baronage took place, when it was enacted that "Every earl and baron, and their peers, viz., such as have lands or rents to the value of one entire earldom, or 20 knights' fees, each computed at £20, which make £400, or the value of an entire barony (viz., 15 knights' fees), and the third of a knight's fee, which make 400 marks, ought to be summoned to Parliament, and none others." &c. Consequently, many of the most ancient peers, whose possessions had been diminished by alienation or otherwise, thus lost their Parliamentary dignity. Amongst these were the Baron of Donoye, Hussey (Baron of Galtrim), and several others; but they continued to be styled lords and barons down to the time of Charles II.²

1 "About the beginning of the fifteenth century, a revision of the Irish Baronage took place (this revision was called 'Molus tenendi Parliamenti'), when it was decided, among other matters, that no baron ought in future to be summoned unless he held 'an entire barony, viz. thirteen knights' fees, and the third of a knight's fee, which make 400 marks.' Consequently, several of the most ancient peers, whose possessions had been diminished by alienation or otherwise, ceased to be summoned to Parliament, and lost their privileges in that respect. . . . Yet they continued to be great lords and barons, keeping their courts-baron, &c., and they were ranked as such, at least down to the time of Charles II. Amongst these lords were: Poher, Baron of Donoye; Hussey, Baron of Galtrim; Fitzjoy, Baron of Donoye; Poer, Baron of Navan; and others."—*Len. & Len. Dig.*

2 L. Rich on "Feudal Dignities."

2. *Barony by Writ*.—Nicholas de Poer,³ Baron of Donoyale and Lord of Kilmidan, was called to Parliament by writs of summons, dated 1375, 1378, 1381. These writs are now the most ancient existing in Ireland. There are several instances of feudal barons, who ranked as Parliamentary peers from the earliest period, being thus summoned to Parliament. Amongst these were the Baron of Loundres; Phypoë, Baron of Seryne; Hussey, Baron of Galtrim; Nangle, Baron of Navan, &c.

3. *Barony of Poer*.—Eustace de Poher, Lord of Grace Castle, Co. Tipperary,⁴ was summoned to Parliament as Baron, A.D. 1295. He died leaving no issue.

4. *Barony of Iverk*.—The original grantee of this barony was Milo Fitz-David,⁵ from whom or from whose immediate descendant it passed to a branch of the Poers. In the 12th year of Edward II. a deed of conveyance, dated at Knocktopher, was executed, by which Roger, son of Milo de Poer, Baron of Iverk, sold the whole lordship of the barony of Iverk in Ossory to Edmond le Butler, Earl of Carrick.

5. *Barony of Kells in Ossory*.—At the commencement of the fourteenth century, this barony was granted to Eustace de Poher, who held large possessions in the Counties of Waterford, Tipperary, Carlow, Kildare, and also in Counaught. He was succeeded by his son Arnold, second baron, whose son and heir, Eustace, third baron, having joined in the rebellion of the Earl of Desmond, was taken prisoner and hanged as a traitor and rebel, 1345; his estates were confiscated.

The barony of Kells was granted to Walter de Bermingham, from whom it passed to the Prestons, Viscounts of Gormanstown, who now hold it.

6. *Barony of Portlester*.—Sir Eustace de Poher died A.D. 1311. From his eldest son have descended the Lords Power and Carraghmore, and from his second the FitzEustaces, or Eustaces.⁶ "Mack that the Eusteys descended lineally of the aforesaid Lord Ustas, which were very noble men in these days of knighthood and ability."⁷ The representative of the Eustaces in the fifteenth century was Sir Rowland FitzEustace, Lord of Killeullen. Lord Deputy to the Duke of Clarence, and Lord High Treasurer of Ireland, who, on the 5th of March, 1462, was created by patent "Lord and Baron of Portlester," to him and to the heirs male of his body. He died 14th December, 1496, leaving no male issue. His daughter, Alison, married Gerald FitzGerald, eighth Earl of Kildare.

7. *Barony of Killeullen and Viscounty of Balinglass*.—On the death of the Baron of Portlester, Sir Thomas Eustace, Knight, became chief of the house. In 1511, he was created Baron of Killeullen, and in 1542 Viscount of Balinglass, to him and to the heirs male of his body. His grandson, James, third viscount, joined the Earl of Desmond in arms, in the hope of placing Mary, Queen of Scots, on the throne of England; "but despite of all his exertions and gallantry, the attempt proved abortive," and he escaped to Spain in 1583, where he soon after died of grief. In 1580, the viscount addressed the following letter to the Earl of Ormond:—"I have received your letter. Whereas you hear that I assemble great companies of men together, you know I am not of such power, but whatever I can make it shall be to maintain truth. Injuries though I have received, yet I forget them. The highest power on earth commands us to take the sword. Questionless it is great want of knowledge and more of grace to think and believe, that a woman uncapax of all holy orders, should be the supreme governor of Christ's Church,

³ This feudal baron was son of John de Poer, Lord of Kilmedan, Co. Waterford, who died in 1347. Anne de Poer, the sister of Nicholas, and daughter of John de Poer, married Sir Robert de Raymond, or FitzRaymond, or Edmond, "Knight of The Hill," Co. Westmeath, who was lineally descended from the famous Raymond le Gros and Esclache de Clare, Strongbow's son's sister.

⁴ See *Journal R.H.A.A.I.*, pages 659, 70, vol. vii, fourth series, October, 1886, and January, 1887, Nos. 62, 69, for an article, contributed by me, "On Castle Grace."

⁵ Milo Fitz-David. By some authorities he is called Milo FitzGerald, of St. David's, and is stated to have been the son of David FitzGerald, Bishop of St. David's, in Wales, third and youngest son of Gerald FitzWalter De Windsor, brother of William and Maurice FitzGerald, and uncle of Raymond le Gros. Milo de Cozom, another of the early Strongbowans, was a first cousin of Milo Fitz-David, being a son of the Bishop's sister. It is highly probable that Milo Fitz-David either married a lady of the De Poers, or that his heiress intermarried into that family, and brought with her Iverk.

⁶ Earl, MSS., British Museum.

⁷ Book of Howth, and *Hibernian's Chronicle*.

a thing that Christ did not grant unto his own mother. If the Queen's pleasure be, as you allege, to minister justice, it were time to begin, for in this twenty years past of her reigo, we have seen more damnable doctrine maintained, more oppressing of poor subjects under pretence of justice within this land, than ever we read or heard done by Christian princes. You counsel me to remain quiet, and you will be occupied in persecuting the poor members of Christ. I would you should learn and consider by what means your predecessors came up to be Earl of Ormond. Truly, you should find that, if Thomas Beckett, Bishop of Canterbury, had never suffered death in the defence of the Church, Thomas Butler, *alias* Beckett, had never been Earl of Ormond." Two years after the death of the Viscount of Baltinglass, in 1585, an act of Parliament was passed, by which he was attainted and his estates forfeited. In the "Book of Howth" (Carew MSS.) a list is given of the "nobility of Ireland, placed by Sir Henry Sedney." The Powers are mentioned thus:—1. Eustace, *alias* Powar, Viscount of Baltinglass, Lord of Kilkullen, to him and to his heirs male, A^o II. 8, 33^o. Their ancestor, Robert L. Powar, was sent into Ireland with commission, and in his offspring hath rested here, A.D. 1176. 2. Power, Baron of Curraghmore.⁸

8. *Viscounty of Valentia*.—Sir Henry Power, of Bersham, Knight, in Denbighshire, Constable of the Castle of Maryborough, Knight Mareschal of Ireland, Governor of Leix, and a Privy Councillor, was raised to the Irish peerage as Viscount of Valentia, 1st of March, 1620, to him and to the heirs male of his body. He died without issue, 25th of May, 1642, when the viscounty passed to Sir Francis Annesley,⁹ who, in 1621, had obtained a reversionary patent of the title.

Not the least in importance and dignity among the peerages conferred upon the family of Power in Ireland, was that of the Barony and Earldom by patent, which raised

the House of Curraghmore to the peerage, under the title of De la Power and Coroghmore.¹⁰

The scope of this paper will not permit more than a passing word regarding the *remote* ancestry of this family. The name is derived from the designation of one of the ancient, independent states of Brittany, of which there were five, namely, La Domnonée, La Cornouailles, Le Vannes, *Le Poher*, and Le Leon; and as many Bretons took part in the Invasion of England, under William of Normandy, and settled there, the Pohers being amongst the number, it may fairly be presumed, that the family sprung from the counts or princes of Le Poher. Many branches were established in England.

A.D. 1066. A branch of the Pohers settled in Devon with Alured de Mayenne;¹¹ and in 1165 Ranulph de Poher held three knights' fees of his barony, of the Honour of Barnstable, under William de Brewes; and William de Poher held of the said Ranulph. Sir Bartholomew de Poher was Lord of Blackburg or Blackborough in the reign of Henry II., and by his wife Elenor left a son Robert de Poher, whose son Bartholomew de Poher was living in the 10th year of Henry III. His son Sir Walter de Poher, Lord of Blackburg-Poerk, Sheriff of Devon, 7th and 8th Henry III. Another branch in Devonshire were styled "of Poberhays." We find Bartholomew de Poher, of Poberhays, living temp. Henry II., who had a son Roger, whose son Roger was father of John, who had a son John, whose son Roger had an only child Cicely de Poher. This Cicely married Richard Duke, Esq. In Pole's "History of Devon" it is stated that "Poerhays, now Dukeshays—this hath always contynued in the name of Poer and Duke."

In Leicestershire, the name is also found.

¹⁰ O'Ferral, in his "Linea Antiqua," says:—"This family [Poer] in a short time became populous and eminent; first from the 31 to 39 Edw. III. 13th more barons of that name summoned to the Parliament held in this kingdom. These were,—31 Edw. III.—Sir Roger FitzMilo Poer, Baron of Berkeley. 32 Edw. III.—The Baron of Donnyale. 35 Edw. III.—The Baron of Donnyale; Sir Arnold Poer, Baron of Kossan, Ossory; Sir George Poer; Sir John FitzRobert Poer. 36 Edw. III.—Sir Stephen Poer, Sir John FitzWilliam Poer, Sir John FitzJohn Poer." All knights and barons.

¹¹ *Pole's "The Norman People,"* published by Henry S. King and Co., 65 Cornhill, London.

⁸ The representative of this family (FitzEustace or Eustace) now is Henry Eustace, of Glenne-town, Co. Louth, who, but for the attainder, would be Viscount of Baltinglass.

⁹ In 1625 Sir Francis Annesley was raised to the peerage as Baron Mountnorris.

About the year 1100 Robert de Poher granted lands lying between the castle ditch and the king's highway, called Westgate, to the monks of Belvoir.

A.D. 1166. Robert de Poher held five and a-half knights' fees in the lordship of Howes, who, with his wife MaBILLA, confirmed the advowson of Howes to the Priory of Belvoir.

Robert de Poher granted 12 bovates to the Abbey of Croxton; William de Poher was also a benefactor to the same abbey. Walter de Poher, and Robert his son, granted, during the reign of Henry II., large possessions at Barkly to the Abbey of St. Mary de Pratis. Robert de Poher and Isabella his wife were also benefactors to the same abbey. Walter de Poher, Lord of Hungerton, granted during the same reign the church of Hongerton, with that of Barkly, to the same abbey. About 1270 Robert de Poher granted the chapel appendant to the church of Barkley, together with the tithes of corn and hay in part of Thurmodeston, to the Abbey of St. Mary of Pratis.

In the reign of Henry III. John de Poher was seized of lands in the manor of Lubbenham.

In Northamptonshire, Hugh de Leyecester was Lord of Great Preston. He founded a priory at Preston, and about 1090 removed it to Daventry. He was living in 1117, and by his wife Mathilde he left two sons, William and Osbert, who died issueless; and a daughter, who married — de Poher. By this marriage there were 3 sons: Hugh de Poher, Jordan, and Simon. Hugh, the eldest son, confirmed the grants made by his grandfather Leyecester to the Priory of Daventry, to which he granted the churches of Haddon, Cold-Ashby, Ettington, and Suthorp. His brother Jordan de Poher ratified a grant made by his uncle Osbert de Leyecester of 14 virgates, of the fee of Poer, to the Monastery of Pipwell. Hugh's son, John de Poher, held the lordship of Cold-Ashby, containing 60 virgates, of which 33 were of the fee of Poer; confirmed his father's grants to the Priory of Daventry; living 1233. He married Eustachia de Pinkency, but died without issue.

Kai de Poer, called De Lichborough, granted the Church of Lichborough to St.

James's Abhey. He had several sons, the eldest of whom, Sampson de Poher, adhered to the barons against King John, thereby forfeiting his estates, which were granted to Ingelbert, nephew of Theobald de Blund. His son, Thomas de Poher, was living in 1256. His father's forfeited estates were restored to him, and we find his son, William, Lord of Lichborough, in 1287; and his son, John, Lord of Lichborough, living in 1298, and father of William de Poer, Lord of Lichborough, in 1308.

In Shropshire, a branch of the Pohers were Lords of Romsley, a lordship they held by service of one knight's fee from the barons of Richard's Castle, and Le Strange's co-heirs. Another branch of the family were Lords of Wollascote, and a third were Lords of Neen Baldwine.

The following were the Lords of Romsley, from the year 1212 to 1315:—Roger de Poer, Lord of Romsley, 1212; William de Poer, Mesne Lord of Romsley, 1255; Roger de Poher, Mesne Lord of Romsley, 1287; John de Poer, Lord of Romsley, 1294; Leo de Poer, otherwise called De Romsley, 1307; Roger de Poer, Lord of Romsley, 1315. The Wollascote branch was represented, in 1235, by Alan de Poher, who married the daughter of William le Strange. Their son, William de Poer, *alias* de Wollascote, was living in 1259, and Roger de Wollascote in 1320.

The Manor of Neen-Baldwine, called later Neen-Sollars, was the only manor in Condetret Hundred held by Osbern FitzRichard, Lord of Richard's Castle, immediately from the king. Anterior to the year 1185, Neen had been given to "the child Baldwin, his ordinary name (says Eytou, in his "Antiquities of Shropshire") being, I suppose, Baldwin de Poer." This Baldwin left daughters only, viz., Eustachia, married De Sollars; Petronilla, married Ingram de Fraxins, or De Frene, 1203.

In Warwickshire, Stephen de Poher held two and a-half hides, in Clifford-Minor, from Margerie de Bohun (temp. Henry I.). His descendant, Hugh de Poher, sided with the barons against the king; seized of two carucates in Clifford. By his wife, Margerie de Clifford, he was

father of Ralph Power, who was given, by John de Clifford, his uncle, all his lands in Ryen-Clifford (temp. Henry III.) These lands continued in the Power family for many generations. Christopher, son and heir of John Power, being the last of this line, granted them to William Clopton, of Clopton, 12th February (5th Henry VIII.)

Thomas Power (22nd Henry VI.) confirmed the lands granted by the Poers, of Ryen-Clifford, to the Hermitage at Bridg-town, and then "constituted John Rawlyns to be hermite there, appointing that said Rawlyns should yearly celebrate an obit in the parish church of Stratford on the eve of Corpus Christi, for the souls of the ancestors of the said Thomas Power."

Walter Power granted (2nd Henry IV.) the Manor of Hetheote to the Collegiate Church of Warwick. The dean and chapter and their successors were therefore to celebrate yearly for ever two obits,—one for the soul of his wife, Margaret, and one for his own soul, after death.

Hugh de Poher (temp. Henry II.) held fourteen hides of the Manor of Northwick.

William de Poer (4, 5, 6 King John) was Sheriff of Warwickshire. Hugh de Poher (22nd Henry III.) was Governor of the Castle of Kenilworth. Hugh de Poher was Deputy to Walter de Beauchamp, Sheriff of Warwickshire. Hugh de Poher was granted the Manor of Whitley, by Walter de Beauchamp.

In Gloucestershire, branches of the family were located; and in Wiltshire, we also find the name. In 1194, Herbert de Poher was consecrated Bishop of Sarum (Salisbury). He died in 1217, and was succeeded in his bishopric by his brother Richard, Bishop of Chichester, who, in 1220, laid the foundation-stone of the present Cathedral of Salisbury. In 1226, Bishop Richard was elected Bishop of Durham, which election was confirmed by the Pope two years later. He died in 1237. From his eldest brother, Philip de Poer, of Ambresbury, descended John Methuen Poer, who was created a baronet, 8th July, 1795, and whose representative now is Sir Edward Poore, of Rushall, 3rd baronet.

In Herefordshire, the name is found as early as 1182, when Ranulph de Poer, then

Sheriff of Hereford, was killed by the Welsh; and in Denbighshire the family was also represented. Sir Henry Power, Master of the Horse to Queen Elizabeth, had issue four sons. The youngest, Sir Henry Power of Bersham, Denbighshire, was General of the Forces in Ireland, and one of the Lords Justices. On the 1st March, 1620, he was created Viscount Valentia, to him and the male heirs of his body. He died *s.p.*, 25th March, 1642. From John Power, eldest son of Sir Henry Power, Master of the Horse, descended Lieut.-General Sir Manley Power, K.C.B., Governor of Malta, who died 7th July, 1826, and was succeeded by his son, Manley Kingsmill Power, of the Hill Court, Herefordshire, J.P. and D.L., the present representative of this line.

These scattered notices of the English branch will sufficiently testify the influence, wealth, and position to which the family attained.

The name existed not in Ireland until the reign of Henry II. During this monarch's reign, and part of the succeeding reign (John's), or the first sixteen years of the Anglo-Norman Invasion, *four* of the name of Poher came to Ireland, viz., Sir Robert, to whom I shall refer again; Sir Roger, William, and Simon.

*Sir Roger*¹² served with Sir John de Courcy, Earl of Ulster, when he invaded that province, where he was second to none in the glorious list of warriors. Of him, Cambrensis says:—"It might be said without offence there was not a man who did more valiant acts than Roger de Poer, who, although he were young and beardless, yet he showed himself a lusty, valiant, and courageous gentleman, and who grew into such good credit, that he had the government of the country about Leighlin, as also in Ossory." He is also described by the same author as a "beardless

¹² Sir Roger de Poer or Poher has been frequently confounded with Sir Robert de Poher, owing probably to the similarity of their names. Sir Robert was the founder of the Co. Waterford Family of Powers; but Giraldus Cambrensis does not say in what relationship Sir Roger stood to him. I find Sir Roger, Sir Robert, and William Poher mentioned in Sweetman's "Calendar of Documents Relating to Ireland." The following is the passage relating to Sir Roger:—"No. 81, vol. 1, A.D. 1172-88, Devon. William Brien, Lord of Exeter, has accorded for hire of a ship to the use of Roger de Poher, Sheriff over the Co. Ireland, 46s. 8d. by the King with the assent of Henry II, Rot. n. p. He was killed in Ireland in the same year.

youth, fair and tall;" and again as "the youngest, bravest, and handsomest of all the Anglo-Norman knights." He was traitorously killed at the Castle of Dangisdrony (in Ossory) A.D. 1188. By his wife, a niece of Sir Armoricus de St. Lawrence, and probably daughter of Robert de Tristram and of Cecilia his wife, he had issue a son John.

Of William¹³ little mention is made. Cambrensis, speaking of the distinguished men who flourished at that time, refers to him, and states that he was "at Waterford."

Simon de Poher confirmed, in A.D. 1187, a grant made by Milo de Cogan, his father-in-law, to the Abbey of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in Dublin, and he made a further grant to the same abbey of "60 carucates of land, contiguous to Cork, in his territory of Munster." He was probably the Poer who built the Castle of Powerscourt, in the County of Wicklow. He left a son William.

In the "Annals of Loch Cé," edited by the late William M. Hennessy, M.R.I.A., (vol. i., p. 185), the name of Simon Power is mentioned, under the year 1190, thus, "Simon Puer"; and Mr. Hennessy has annexed the following foot note:—"Simon Puer—This entry has been left unfinished. The name of Simon Puer (Poer, or de la Poer) does not occur in the usual lists of the early English colonists of Ireland." It is very probable the unfinished entry refers to the year of his death.

Sir Robert de Poher, of whose descendants the following pages treat, was a son of Sir Bartholomew de Poher, Lord of Blackborough, Devon¹⁴ (temp. Henry

II.), and his wife Elenour. He accompanied Henry II.¹⁵ himself in 1172, was Knight Marshall to that monarch, and was granted by him in A.D. 1177, "in custodiam, the City of Waterford, with all the circumjacent province; and appointed that the following lands should, for the time to come, belong to the service of Waterford, viz., all the lands which lie between Waterford and the water beyond Lismore [which comprehend the greatest part of the County of Waterford], and also the lands of Ossory." He obtained a grant of that portion of the present County of Waterford extending from the River Suir to the sea, excepting the city and cantred of the Danes, a district thence called the Poer, or Power country, thus dispossessing the O'Flanagans, the ancient Celtic proprietors. From Sir Robert de Poher have descended, as we shall see, the Barons of Donoye, the Barons of Iverke, the Barons of Kells in Ossory, the Lords Power and Curraghamore, and Earls of Tyrone, and the Eustaces, Barons of Portlester and Viscounts of Baltinglass.¹⁶ When William Fitz Adelin de Bargh was recalled to England, the king appointed Hugh de Lacy Governor-General of Ireland, A.D. 1179, and joined with him, in commission, Sir Robert de Poher, Governor of Waterford and Wexford.

Sir Robert, by his wife Katherine, had issue four sons:—Sir John de Poher, Baron of Donoye, eldest son; Sir Eustace de Poher, a benefactor to the Dominican Monastery of St. Saviour's, Dublin, A.D. 1224; Walter de Poher, Lord of Dunbratyn; and Bartholomew de Poher, living 10th Henry III., who continued the line of Blackborough or Blackborough, Devon.

Walter de Poher, Lord of Dunbratyn and Rathgormyk, the 3rd son of Sir Robert de

¹³ No. 75, vol. i., A.D. 1184-85. Devon. William Briewerre renders his account for passage into Ireland of the following persons:—Thomas Briewerre and his two associates, 30s.; William Puler and nine associates, with 50 horses, 66s. 8d., and others, all by the king's writ (Pipe, 31 Hen. II., Rot. li.), No. 129, vol. i., Oct. 30th, 1200. William le Poer appears one of the witnesses to an agreement between Meyn Fitz-Henry and Falk de Cantelup, touching 3 carucates of land at Corkick (Westbury, Chart., 2 John, m. 22), No. 132, Oct. 30th, 1200. William Puler appears one of the witnesses to a grant for life to Thomas, Abbot de Gindelehan (Glendouh), of 40 carucates of land (Gloucester, Chart., 2 John, m. 20).

¹⁴ See "The Norman People." In Sweetman's "Calendar of Documents Relating to Ireland" I find the following:—"No. 21, Vol. i., 1171, 1172. Norfolk and Suffolk.—Honor of William de Curci. Wm. le Poher and Hugh Puerina render their account for hire of a ship to carry the harness and supplies of Robert Puler into Ireland, 24, by the King's writ." (Pipe 15 Hen. II., Rot. 3 and 5 bars.) This is the earliest mention of the name of Poher or Power in Irish records. This

Robert was the ancestor of the Irish Powers, and here we have an authentic record of his first arrival in Ireland. "No. 41, Vol. i., 1172, 1173. Oxon.—Honor of Wm. de Curci. William le Poher and Hugh Puerina owe 20 sennace of the old for payment. They also render their account of 24 4s. of the new feoffment, because the honor is in the King's hand. Pardon by the King's writ for Wm. Fitzadelin, 40s., and for Ralph de Bena, Jocelin de Neville, and Robert Poher, 10s. each, and they owe 11s." (Pipe, 19 Hen. II., Rot. li.)

¹⁵ Hoveden says that Henry's fleet contained 400 large ships laden with warriors, horses, arms, and provisions. He landed at the Curragh.

¹⁶ Benedict Abbot, who then lived and wrote the History of Henry II., mentions this grant to Robert Puler or Poer.

Poher, founded a branch of the family, which produced many distinguished individuals, but which became extinct before the close of the fourteenth century. He married Feya, daughter and co-heir of William D'Eincourt, Lord of Incheth and Lisnekill, County of Tipperary. This William D'Eincourt is mentioned in Sweetman's "Calendar of Documents relating to Ireland," viz., vol. i., No. 529: Feb. 1, 1214-15.—Mandates to Henry, Archbishop of Dublin, to distrain debtors to the king for fines made in the time of the Bishop of Norwich, among them is the name of William de Hayneourt, for Crumell (? Clonmel) £100, and 100 marks for marrying his daughter to the son of Elias fitz-Norman.—Corfe (Close, 16 John, p. 2, m. 9.) No. 1014, Oct. 21, 1221.—The king commands the Archbishop of Dublin and the Justiciary of Ireland to respite till the feast of St. John the Baptist (21 June, ar. 6 Hen. III.) the plaint between William de Aencourt, plaintiff, and William de Burgh, defendant, touching the manor of Clunmel.—Westminster (Close, 5 Hen. III., p. 1, m. 1.)

Walter de Poher had issue, by Feya D'Eincourt, a son Benet, of whom presently, and a daughter Elenor, who married Sir Alexander de Raymond, or Redmond, knight, of the Hall, Co. Wexford. He was a near cousin to Margaret Grace, lady of Grace Castle, who was the wife of Benet de Poer, his wife's brother, Sir Alexander being a great-grandson of Raymond le Gros. The Latin pedigree of the Redmond family records this marriage:—*Dominus Alexander de Redmond de Auli Eques, nupt' fait a Eleonora, filia Domini Gauleri Poer de Curraghmore, in comitatu Waterfordensi, Equitis.*

Benet de Poer, son and heir of Walter de Poher, was Lord of Dunbratyn and Rathgormyck, in which he succeeded his father; and of Grace Castle, in right of his wife, Margaret, daughter and heir of William le Grace, Lord of Grace Castle, who was the son of Raymond le Gros. By her he had two sons—Mathew (to whom I shall refer presently) and a younger son, who succeeded to Grace Castle. His son, Eustace Poer, Lord of Grace Castle, was summoned to Parliament as Lord Poer, A.D. 1295. Died *s p.*

The elder son, Mathew Poer, Lord of Dunbratyn and Rathgormyck, had no issue by his first wife, Mathilde; but by his second wife, Dionysia, he had three sons—(1) Walter, his heir; (2) Eustace Poer, who was granted the barony of Kells in Ossory, about A.D. 1300 (of whom presently); and (3) Milo Power, Bishop of Leighlin. Miler le Poer, Chantor of Leighlin, upon the king's licence of election, was chosen Bishop by the Dean and Chapter, the 5th Nov., 1320, and confirmed by Alexander Bicknor, Archbishop of Dublin, the 29th of January following. He was consecrated at Waterford on Palm Sunday (says Clynn), in 1321. He sat twenty years, or somewhat more.—(Ware's "Bishops.")

The eldest son, Walter Poer, Lord of Dunbratyn and Rathgormyck, was succeeded by his son Mathew Poer, who was also heir to Eustace, Lord Poer, who was summoned to Parliament as a Baron, in 1295. The second son, Eustace Poer, Baron of Kells in Ossory, was the father of Lord Arnold de Poer, Baron of Kells, Lord of Grace Castle &c., Seneschal of the Counties Kilkenny and Carlow, partisan of the Lady Alice De Kyteler against Richard de Ledrede, Bishop of Ossory, before whom Lady Alice was tried for witchcraft and sorcery. Lord Arnold was afterwards accused of the same by the said Bishop, and pending his trial was confined in the Prison Tower of the Castle of Dublin, where he died A.D. 1328, and was buried in the Dominican Church of St. Saviour's, Dublin. He married Agnes, an heiress who had dower, A.D. 1337, and left issue two sons: Eustace (of whom presently), and Robert Poer, Treasurer of Ireland 1327, Chief Justice of the King's Bench; Seneschal of Wexford County; Baron of the Exchequer, whose son John, was father of John de Poer, living 1384, Attorney-general to the King.

Eustace de Poer, eldest son of Lord Arnold, was Baron of Kells, &c., and a Knight of the Golden Spur. He joined the Earl of Desmond in rebellion, was taken prisoner while defending the Castle of the Island, and hanged as a traitor and rebel by order of the Lord Justice Ulford, A.D. 1345; when his estates were confiscated. His Barony of Kells, in Ossory, was granted to

Walter de Bermingham, from whom it passed to the Prestons, now Viscounts of Gormanston. His manor of Granagh was granted to James Butler, Earl of Ormond. By his wife, the Lady Mathilde de Bermingham, whom he married in 1331, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John de Bermingham, Earl of Louth, he left an only son, Arnold Poer.

The annalist Clynch notices, in his too scant allusions to the events which followed the slaughter of the Earl of Louth, that Sir William Bermingham and his family remained in the summer of 1331 in the woods of the Monks of Dowske, (Graignamagh); that *there* Sir Enstace Power married the daughter of the slain nobleman.

Later on, I shall give an interesting account of Lord Arnold de Poer's feud with Gerald, 4th Earl of Desmond.

Sir John de Poher, Baron of Donoylc, eldest son of Sir Robert, succeeded his father as baron by tenure. It is extremely probable that Sir Robert himself, or this John, his successor, built the Castle of Donoylc, which was the "caput baroniæ," all the other families of the name in the County of Waterford branching therefrom. We find the barons of Donoylc mentioned at a very early period, and I think it may be regarded as certain that this feudal fortress dates its foundation from the close of the twelfth or first years of the thirteenth century. That it was unusually strong and inaccessible, the picturesque and suggestive ruins of it still standing, sufficiently attest.¹⁷ This Sir John is mentioned as follows in Sweetman's "Calendar of Documents relating to Ireland," vol. i. :—

No. 1635, Nov. 17, 1228. The King to the Justiciary of Ireland: Richard Duket and Henry de St. Florence have offered to the king on the justiciary's behalf 100 marks for the marriage of John, son and heir of Robert le Poher. The King accepts the offer, saving

¹⁷ Donoylc, Dunoyld, Donoyl, DonIsle, Donill, Doneylc, as it is spelt in various MSS. is situated in the Co. Waterford, about two miles from the town of Arnestown. The ruins are still considerable, and are situated on the top of a very high and precipitous rock. It is said that at one time the sea almost surrounded it, rendering it impregnable; and the flatness of the nature of the surrounding country would seem to verify this tradition.

the fine for John's relief, and commands the justiciary to cause the latter to come to him to do homage, and make that fine.—*Hestminster (Close, 13 Hen. III., p. 1, m. 20.)*

No. 1786, April 6, 1230. The K. to Richard de Burgh, Justiciary of Ireland: Has taken the homage of John, son and heir of Robert le Poher, for the lands which the latter held of the king in capite, and which descend to John by right of inheritance. John has made with the king for his relief a fine of £20, whereof £10 have been pardoned to him at the instance of Raymond de Burgh. Mandate to the Justiciary that, having taken security for the maintaining £10, he give to John seisin of all Robert's lands.—*Reading, (Close, 14 Hen. III., p 1, m. 11.)*

No. 2285, Aug. 1235. Letters from the King to the Magistrates of Ireland, thanking them for their services, and calling on them to assist the Justiciary in Ireland. Amongst them letters to John le Poer, Robert de Karren, Odo and David de Barri, and others.

Sir John, the second baron by tenure, left three sons also:—(1) Robert, his heir, Baron of Donoylc, who, however, died A.D. 1249, *s.p.*, and was succeeded by his brother; (2) Piers de Poher, 4th Baron; and (3) *Mathew de Poher, the youngest son, ancestor of the House of Coroghmore, or Curraghmore, and of which distinguished branch I shall treat at length.*

Piers de Poher, 4th Baron of Donoylc by tenure, heir to his brother Robert, was drowned at sea, A.D. 1283, leaving a son and heir,

John de Poer, 5th Baron of Donoylc, born at Carnarvon A.D. 1281, two years old at his father's death. In the 33rd year of Edward I. A.D. 1305, the Crown appointed him Sheriff of the County of Waterford; and the reasons of the appointment are stated to be that much damage was done, by divers malefactors running through that county, some of whom were of the family of the Poers, and others nuder that family, whom neither the sheriff nor the people could resist; wherefore the Baron of Donhill, *who is fully able to chastise all such malefactors of his family and their accomplices, is made sheriff there.*—(*Annals of Feudal Dignities.*) In 1317, he, with the

Lord Justice, the Earl of Kildare, and Richard de Clare, furnished and armed 30,000 men, to oppose Robert and Edward Bruce. In 1324, he was of the witnesses to the compact entered into between the king of England and the nobles of English descent, for the capture of felons, robbers, and thieves of their family and surname. This compact is mentioned in Hardiman's Statute of Kilkenny, p. 66, note, published by the Irish Arch. Soc. in 1843.

In the 18th year of Edward II., A.D. 1325, John de Poer, Baron of Donoyale, obtained a writ from the Crown directing that he should have aid from his knights and free servants towards making his eldest son a knight. The Anglo-Irish lords frequently exacted imposts on the authority and precedents of the feudal system; and this levy, which had no corresponding one among the Irish, was for the purpose of defraying the cost of feasting, &c., attendant on the ceremony of conferring knighthood. He was summoned to Parliament, and aided King Edward against the Scots.¹⁸ He left issue, at his death in 1328, three sons,¹⁹ viz., Piers, his heir; Bennet de Poer, Lord of Kylmydan; and

Eustace de Poer, of both of whom hereafter.

Sir Piers de Poher, 6th Baron of Donoyale, was killed, with twelve others of his name, by the Geraldines of Desmond, and in the same conflict was killed the Lord John Fitzgerald, A.D. 1328. Sir Piers married Joan, daughter of Sir John de Wogan, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, by whom he had two sons:—John, his successor; and Bennet de Poer, killed in battle with his brother, 1368.²⁰

Sir John de Poer, 7th Baron of Donoyale. He was killed in battle against the citizens of Waterford, when the latter were defeated by the Poers, aided by the O'Driscolls. The Mayor of the city, thirty-six of the most worthy citizens, sixty merchant strangers, and English, with Richard le Walshe, Master of the Hospital; and Walter le Devensish, were amongst the slain, A.D. 1368.²¹ Sir John left at his death an only child, Joan de Poer, who married, about 1350, Nicholas de Bekinfield. Sir John de Poer, 7th Baron of Donoyale, was made Seneschall of Kilkenny 18 Jan., 11th Edw. II., and we find him a baron in 13th Edw. II.—(C. R. P. C. H. 22.)

The senior male line of the House of Donoyale thus becoming extinct in the person of the 7th Baron, we shall now revert to Bennet de Poher, Lord of Kylmydan, and his brother, Eustace, sons of John de Poer, the 5th Baron, who died in 1328.

Bennet (de) Poer, Lord of Kylmydan and Rathgornmycke, second son of the 5th Baron,

18 Eustace John, John FitzRobert, Stephen, William, Walter, and John FitzJohn le Poer were summoned among the magnates of Ireland, and to attend the Scottish wars in 1302, 30 Edw. I.—(Egmont's *Feletra*.) Summones to Wals. &c., Vascon Koll, 18 Edw. II., m. 25 verso. Summones to Thomas FitzJohn, Earl of Kildare, to the war in Aquitaine, sent by John Dorcey, Justiciary of Ireland, and Nicholas Fastaf, Chief Justice, ad placita pro Jure Justicie, sequentia, Westminster, 30th Oct. Similar summonses were sent to Maurice FitzThomas, Thomas le Botiller, William de Burgh, John de Barro, Arnould le Poer, John le Poer, Baron de Donoyale, Richard de Maundeville, John FitzJohn le Poer, et multos alios. Summones to Richard de Burgh, Earl of Ulster, to Carlisle, for the war against the Scots, Hattelsere, 8th Dec. Similar summonses to the following: Thomas FitzJohn, Earl of Kildare; Maurice FitzThomas, William de Burgh, John de Barro, John le Poer, Baron of Donoyale; Arnould le Poer, Nicholas de Verdon, Maurice de Bechard, Simon de Genevey, Richard de Wales. —(Close Roll, 10 Edw. II., m. 18.) The following are a few of the names of those who received state pensions in the year 1318, for certain transgressions at the instances of John FitzPiers, Baron of Dunhill, and his son:—Geoffrey le Poer, of Ballydown; Maurice, John, and David, his sons; Jordan, Rowland, Siveker, Leonard, John, Gregory, Patrick, Emoun Fitz Edmund, Edmund, John, Roger, Andrew, Robert, Maurice, Walter, Henry, Piers, and Gerard, all bearing the name of Poer.—(See *Pat. 2 Edward II.*, p. 24.) In this Patent Roll of 1318, II., the son of John Fitz-Piers, Baron of Dunhill, is called "Sir Arnould." This is evidently a mistake, as John le Poer, the son of no man named Arnould. The Sir Arnould mentioned was probably Sir Arnould de Poer, Baron of Kells, in Ossing.

19 John de Poer, Baron of Donoyale, died 1328. "In 1328, on Sunday, the 10th day of the feast of St. Agnes, died John le Poer, Baron of Donoyale."—(O'Connell's *Annals*, p. 29, Dublin, 1849.) See also the entry with John de Wogan, that Piers, his son, should marry the said Wogan's daughter, Audi. MS. 4790, Brit. Mus., p. 67.

20 Carew MSS., A.D. 1328. The Lord John Power, Baron of Dunhill, died, and also the Lord Arnould de Power, Carew MSS., "Fragmenta quædam ex Chronicis Hibernicæ." From this entry it seems apparent that the 5th and 6th Barons of Donoyale died the same year—due a natural death, and the other in battle.

21 The following note in reference to this contest, and which is taken from the Carew MSS., f. 254, will be interesting:—"The 4th Sept., 1368, 12 (sic) Edw. III. The Poers trained Holderswell, with his galleys and men, to come to them to the County of Waterford, to enlarge the citizens. John Malpas (then Mayor) with the best men of the city, and Sir Walter Devensish, Sheriff of the County; Richard Walshe, Master of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, and Justice of the Peace; and a number of merchants, strangers, and Englishmen, set forth to encounter the said galleys. They met at Clonmannon. The Mayor, Sir Justice of the Peace, 36 citizens, and 60 merchants, strangers, and Englishmen, were slain. On the other side, the Baron of Dunhill and his brother, Bennett Poer, with divers others. The Mayor was buried at Christchurch, and Richard Bennet was buried in his place. From "Notes of certain events which happened by the Poers of the County of Waterford, and the citizens of the shire of the West part of Munster, and the citizens of Waterford; and the revenges of the said city upon them."

was killed with his brother Sir Piers, in the conflict with the Geraldines of Desmond, A.D. 1328. He left by his wife, Katherine FitzMaurice, one son, John Poer, slain with his father, 1328. This John dying issueless, his uncle, Eustace Poer, succeeded as heir to his brother, and was styled Lord of Kylmydan and Rathgormycke.²² He was succeeded by his son, John Poer, Lord of Kylmydan (who was dead in 1347). This Sir John Poer, Knight, and Lord of Kylmydan, had two sons, Piers and Nicholas (of whom presently), and a daughter, Anne Poer, who married Sir Robert de Raymond, or Redmond, Knight, of The Hall, County Wexford, and had issue, Sir Alexander de Raymond, eldest son and heir. This marriage is thus recorded in the Latin pedigree of the Redmond family:—"Dominus Robertus de Redmond de Aula Eques, nupt' fuit a Anna, filia Domini Johanni Poer de Kilmayden, in Comitatu Waterfordensi Equitis."

Piers Poer, the eldest son, Lord of Kylmydan, died without issue, and his brother Nicholas became his heir.

Nicholas Poer, Lord of Kylmydan, 1370, heir to his brother. He was Sheriff for the County of Waterford in 1372, and was summoned by writ to Parliament as Baron²³ four times, viz., 23rd November, 1375, and thrice afterwards, in 1378, in 1381, and 1383; was living in 1392. He had four sons:—Walter, his heir; Sir Maurice Poer, Knight of St. John of Jerusalem; John, and Thomas; and a daughter, Elenour, who was the wife of

David Poer, of the Curraghamore line (of whom hereafter).

Walter Poer, the eldest son, Baron of Donoye, Lord of Kylmydan, living in 1397-1433, married, and had issue a son,

John Poer, Baron of Donoye, Lord of Kylmydan, who was living in 1471. He was father of

Walter Poer, Baron of Donoye, Lord of Kilmedan, who ob. 1529, leaving by his wife Ellen, dau. of Sir Piers Poer, 5 sons—

Nicholas, his heir, John Poer of Garran-crowbally, Benet, Henry, and Maurice.

Nicholas Poer,²⁴ hereditary Baron of Donoile, and Lord of Kilmedan, the eldest son, succeeded. In the Presentments of Juries of the Connty of Waterford, A.D. 1337, he is mentioned thus:—"Item, Nicholas Poer, of Kyllmedan, do use coyne and lyverye, srahe, and bonneh, in his owne lands, of his tenants, the king's subjects, and also nyghtmeats, and fyne for thevis that robbe and stele of his tenants." Amongst the City Presentments I find the following:—"Item, They present that Nicholas Powre, of Kylmydan, hath taken coyne 't livery, 't his brethern likewise John Morice 't Benet Powre, 't useth the same contynually 't hath ioyned in tyme past wt Geralt McShane and procured hym to robbe this cuntrye 't hath committed in revenging his quarell agaynst Sir Richard Power divers felonies as manslaughter, robbing, 't burnyng." He married Shela, dau. of John FitzGerald, Lord of the Deeces, by whom he had 2 sons—Robert his heir, and Piers Poer²⁵ of Carrigphilip—from whom branched the families of Power and Poer of Carrigphilip, Kilbolane, Carrigaline, Corbenny, Knockalahan, Affane, Ballyhauc, and Belleville.

Robert Poer, the elder son and heir, Baron of Donoile, Lord of Kilmedan, married a daughter of Fitzgerald (Baron of Barnchurch), and, dying on the 24th of July, 1587, left 4

²² Benet de Poer, 2nd son of the 5th Baron of Donoye, was Lord of Kylmydan and Rathmycke, and most probably built Kylmydan, or Kilmedan Castle, which branch thus became second only in importance to the chief House of Donoye, until the two were united, and the barony recognised in the person of Nicholas Poer, summoned, as stated in the text, by writ to Parliament, four different times. Thenceforward the two Houses of Donoile and Kylmydan merged into one line, as evidenced by the interesting fact that the last Baron of Donoye defended Kilmedan against Cromwell, whilst his brave lady withstood his onset at Drouill.

²³ He was no doubt summoned as being Baron of Donoye, as his ancestors had been so summoned in right of their barony, sometimes with the addition "of Donoye" after the family name. Kylmydan or Kilmadan was a manor of which the Poers were lords—a younger branch which eventually, in the person of Nicholas Poer, Lord of Kylmydan, was united to Donoye. This occurred about the year 1371, when the aforesaid Nicholas became chief of the house in succession to his cousin John, Baron of Donoye.—Lynch—*Federal Doyne*.

²⁴ Nicholas Power, hereditary Baron of Dunhill, married Shela, sister of the celebrated long-lived Countess of Desmond.

²⁵ Styl'd "of Caninge Philipp" (Carew MS., 4. 5.). He married Isabelle, daughter of Sir George Isham, of Co. Wexford, and had (1) John, who married a daughter of John Fitz of Hacketstown, Esq., in the Deeces; (2) Willm., who married the heiress of Fitz-Edmund, of Kilbolane, in Co. Wick; (3) Pierce; (4) Thomas; (5) Katherine, married Sir John de Roche's country; (6) Ellen, married to Hackett, of Bowsh. He had a sister Giles, and another Honora, who married Fitz-James FitzGerald, of Ballyvoysta, in the Deeces.

sons—Nicholas, Richard,²⁶ Rowland, and John.

Nicholas Power,²⁷ the eldest son, Baron of Dunisle, Lord of Kilmedan, obit 1st April, 1635. By his wife Elenor, dau. of Thomas Purcel, Baron of Loughmoe, he had issue three sons—John (of whom presently); Nicholas; and Walter Power, who married a dau. of—Grant, Esq., of Curlogy—and a dau. Elenor, who married Nicholas Power, of Kilballykiltie.

John Power, son and heir, Baron of Donoye and Lord of Kilmedan. He married Giles, dau. of Sir John FitzGerald, of Dromana, Lord of the Decies.²⁸ He defended the Castle of Kilmedan against Cromwell, which was, however, taken and destroyed.²⁹ Soon after, Cromwell laid siege to the Castle of Donhill, which was courageously defended by the Baroness, when, after a lengthened resistance, it was, according to tradition, betrayed into his hands by the lieutenant of the castle.³⁰ The baron, with 18 of his followers, was “transplanted” into Connaught, and his estates were confiscated. Donhill, Kilfaresy, with other lands, were granted to Sir John Cole, ancestor of the Earl of Enniskillen; Castlereagh to Sir Thomas Stanley;

Kilmedan to Henry Nichols, from whom it, with many other lands, passed, by purchase, to John Ottrington, ancestor of the Viscount Doneraile.³¹

Thus ended the Barony of Donoye, which had been held by one of the most distinguished and loyal of the Anglo-Norman families in the country. For 500 years the barony passed to the legitimate heirs male of the body of Sir Robert de Poher, the 1st baron by tenure; and we have seen that during that time from this eminent House many brave barons and knights, faithful and true in their allegiance, sprung.

The last of the name who owned the honoured title of “Baron of Donoye” had the misfortune, in common with the chief of so many other Anglo-Norman and Irish families, to co-exist with Cromwell—a soldier of whom and some of his followers it might be said with truth “that they sprung from the land of England like fungi from a tree, or the mushroom from the fields; they were false to king and country, and were wanting in the noblest attributes of the soldier—humanity, generosity, and moderation in victory.”

The subsequent fate of the last of the Barons of Donoye has not been accurately shown. After the Restoration, the Baron was amongst those “named” to be restored to portion of his estates, and Donoye was to have been given back to him, Cole being first “reprimed.” This was never carried out, however. Some light may be thrown on the matter by a reference to the “Act of Settlement and Explanation,” in which, at pages 101, 102, a list of the “Nominees” of Charles II. is given. These “Nominees,” as they were styled, having been “named” in his Majesty’s gracious declaration, were each granted by Charles II. capital seats in Ireland, with 2,000 acres of land contiguous to each seat. Among them we find three of the name of Power, namely:—

I. Master David Power, of Kilbolane, “who was mentioned amongst the thirty-eight persons in his Majesty’s late gracious declaration, and was restored after reprimals

²⁶ This Richard married a dau. of Redmond M’Odo (Archdeacon).

²⁷ Nicholas Power was “of Donoye,” and “lyvinge” in 1609, according to Carew, and had *one son* Walter. He had three, however; his eldest son was John. Vide “Funeral Entries,” Dublin Castle, 63.

²⁸ This Sir John FitzGerald, called Sir John Oge FitzGerald, was knighted by the Lord Deputy. He m. Elinor, dau. of James Lord Dunboyne, and died 1st March, 1620. His eldest son Sir Gerald (brother of the Lady Oles who m. the last Baron of Donoye) was father of Sir John FitzGerald, of Dromana, knight, M.P. for Duncaivan, who’s only child Catherine married, in 1677, Edward Villiers, eldest son of George Viscount Grandison.

²⁹ Kilmedan House is built on the spot where the Castle stood.—Smith’s “History of Waterford,” p. 75.

³⁰ “The Castle of Donhill, situated on the sea-coast, beyond Tramore, was bravely defended by a lady. It was built on a rock almost inaccessible, and, judging by the ruins still remaining, it must have been a place of prodigious strength. For a long time it resisted the attack, though artillery was used to make a breach in its outworks. At length it yielded. The countess was the life and soul of the defenders. Day and night she was on the ramparts, animating by her presence and energy the spirits of the garrison. She had, it seems, a skillful engineer, who defeated all the plans of the besiegers. One day she retired to rest, but she neglected to provide for the wants of her weary soldiers. Her engineer sent to demand refreshment for himself and his comrades; he received in return the unwelcome food of a drink of bitter-milk. Irritated at the insult, he made signals to the foe, who actually had raised the siege, and were in return off a 1st and ordered to them the Castle. It was forthwith blown up with gun-powder. The countess perished among the ruins.”—*Hall’s Ireland*, vol. 1, p. 302.)

³¹ J. de Ottrington’s grand daughter married into the St. Leger family, and brought the property to Viscount Doneraile.—*Archdeacon’s Pedigree*, vol. vi, p. 121.)

set out, and for whom no provision hath yet been made" (and *never was*, probably!).

2. John Power, of Doneile, in the County of Waterford, Esq., thirteenth on the list.

3. Pierce Power, of Moneylargy, County Waterford, Esq., fourteenth on the list, "and their heirs and assignees shall, by the commissioners for the execution of this act, be restored unto their severall and respective principall seats. That is to say, unto their severall and respective principall messuages, houses, or castles (*Kilmedan and the lands thereunto belonging excepted*), or in case they have severall messuages, houses, or castles, to such of their severall messuages, houses, or castles (*Kilmedan and the lands thereunto belonging excepted*) as they shall respectively choose, within two months after the first sitting of the commissioners for the execution of this act, and unto two thousand acres of land, thereunto adjoining, if they or any of them, their or any of their ancestors, or any other in trust for them or any of them, or to their or any of their use, were seized or possessed of so much upon the two and twentieth of October, one thousand six hundred and forty-one, and were thereunto lawfully and rightfully intituled."

It is here very clearly shown that Kilmedan and the lands belonging to it were never restored; and although after the Restoration the Donoyle estate was to have been restored, after Cole, to whom Donoyle had been given, was "reprised," this was not carried out, and Donoyle, &c., remained in the Cole family until the beginning of the present century.

The John Power, of Doneile, Esq., referred to in the list of "Nominees," was certainly either the Baron of Donoyle who resisted Cromwell's onslaught at Kilmedan, or his son and heir. I think it possible he was the son and heir, because a tradition exists that, when the Castle was taken, the owner was "seized and hanged on a tree close by." This, if true (and judging by the worthy Cromwell's many acts of barbarous inhumanity, it was not a very improbable means of retaliation on his brave enemy), would perhaps account for the non-restoration of the estates. Among the grantees in the

"Commission of Grace," or enrolments under the "Act of Grace" in Ireland," I find the names of John, Nicholas, and Thomas Power. This John Power was, "in consideration of a fine of £20, granted the lands of Clashmore, Cooleboe, Ballyneclasy, in the Decies, dated 3rd of January, 1681."³² Now it has been supposed that he was one and the same person as the dispossessed Baron of Donoyle (*or his son*). There would seem to be some doubt about it, and it is rather remarkable that the family of Power of Clashmore, if descended from the grantee above mentioned, have never claimed to be representatives of the Donisle House, which would have dignified them with the position of being head of all the name of Power in Ireland—Donisle, as already shown, having being the "*Fons et Origo Nominis in Hibernia*." In a letter from Colonel Enstace Mansfield, of Landscape, he expressed to me his belief that "the first John Power of Clashmore was connected with the Law, and purchased or got possessions of various lands at or about Cromwell's time, and afterwards got a grant from Charles II. in 1684, which was not an uncommon proceeding." Colonel Mansfield's idea is extremely probable, but I would add that, to my mind, there is nothing to *disconnect* the first John Power of Clashmore with the last John Power of Donisle; and I am inclined to the opinion that he was the eldest son of the last Baron, that he may have been connected with the Law, and naturally enough purchased lands in the old county, which were confirmed to him in 1681; but still the "stumbling-block" remains, that the Clashmore family never mentioned in their pedigree a fact of which they could justly boast.

It is worthy of notice, that although John Power of Donoyle is amongst the 79 persons "transplanted" from the County of Waterford, his name does not appear in "The

³² These were grants from the Crown, made at the close of the reign of Charles II. and during that of James II., which, from the circumstances under which they were made, are considered to be a special class of documents, distinguished by the name of Enrolments under the "Act of Grace."

³³ See my article on "Sledy Castle," in *Jour. R.H.A.A.*, p. 210, vol. viii., 4th series. Jan. and April, 1893.

Connaught Certificates, 1653, 1654," which would point to his having never got lands in Connaught or Clare, and is an argument in favour of the Clashmore theory.

The Clashmore family is now extinct in the male line, being represented in the female lines by the present and 14th Earl of Huntingdon, and by Sir John Nugent, Baronet, of Cloncoskranie, County of Waterford. The first of the Clashmore family I find recorded is John Power, of Clashmore, Esq., who may have been the last Baron of Donoye, or his son, as already suggested, but without any positive record of the fact. He married Margaret, the youngest daughter of Piers Power, of Knocklahane, County Cork, whose will was proved 4th December, 1701. She was the sister of Richard Power, who, I am strongly inclined to think, was the first of the family of Power, of Clonkerdin, County Waterford, and whose tomb recording his age and date of death, can be seen in the burial-ground at Whitechurch. The fact that the Powers of Clonkerdin always claimed kinsmanship with the Mansfields of Ballinamultinagh, and the Powers of Clashmore, favours my view. The grandmother of the Richard Power I refer to, was a Miss Mansfield, and his sister married Mr. Power, of Clashmore.

John Power, of Clashmore, had issue a son, John Power, of Clashmore, and a daughter Barbara, who married James Uniacke, of Cappa, Co. Tipperary. The 2nd John Power, of Clashmore, married Mary McGrath, of Sledy Castle, Co. Waterford, by whom he had a son, John Power, of Clashmore, who married, on the 11th November, 1733, Katherine, daughter and co-heiress of John Power, of Gurtreen, and of Grange, County of Galway, *de jure* 11th Lord Power and Curraghmore. By this marriage there was issue two sons and a daughter—Richard (of whom presently); William Power, who was born in 1749, and married Margaret Uniacke, of Airnount, by whom he had a son James, who married Mary Flynn; and Mary Power (born 1735), who married Redmond Power, of Glasha and Whitefort, grandfather of the late Edmund Power, of Springfield, Clonmel, Esq., solicitor.

Richard, the elder son and heir, of Clashmore. He was born in 1738, and married, in 1766, Elizabeth, daughter of Shapland Carew, of Castleboro', Esq., by whom he had issue: (1) Richard, his heir (of whom presently); (2) Robert Power, Esq., M.P. for the County of Waterford, died *s.p.*; (3) Mary Power, who married, in 1807, Sir John Nugent Humble, of Cloncoskranie, baronet, father of the late Sir John Nugent Humble, and grandfather of the present baronet; (4) Margaret Power, who married the Viscount of Valmer. Richard Power, of Clashmore, Esq., the elder son and heir, was M.P. for the County Waterford. He married Dorothea, daughter of Robert Carew, of Castleboro', Esq., by whom he had an only child and heiress, Elizabeth Anne Power, of Clashmore, who married on the 8th September, 1835, Francis Theophilus Henry Hastings, 12th Earl of Huntingdon, grandfather of the present and 14th Earl. He died on the 18th September, 1875, having survived his wife, who died on the 18th February, 1857. With her ended the line of Power of Clashmore.

If the theory that the grantee of 1654 was identical with John Power, or his son, of Donisle, be incorrect, then the representation of the premier line would have devolved upon the direct male heir of Piers Poer, of Carrigphilip, second son of Nicholas Poer, Baron of Donisle and Shela, dau. of Sir John FitzGerald, of Dromana, Lord of the Decies, who, *if the male issue of Major Roger Power of Knocklahane,³⁴ and that of*

³⁴ Major Roger Power, of Knocklahane and Corrycree, County Cork, in 1643 defended the Castle of Lismore with 100 of the tenants of the Earl of Cork; his uncle (his father having married Elizabeth Boyle, sister of Richard 1st Earl of Cork), against the Earl of Castlehaven. All his powder having been spent, he capitulated upon honourable terms. 500 of the soldiers having been previously killed. After the Restoration he was granted lands in the County of Wicklow. This Roger was second cousin of the last Baron of Donisle. He married a Miss Mansfield, probably of Ballinamultinagh, County Waterford, of which ancient House Colonel Justice Mansfield, of Lundesse, is a representative. Major Roger Power had a son Piers Power, of Knocklahane, whose three elder sons Roger, Piers, M.D., were attainted in 1641, and whose fourth son Richard was probably the Richard Power, of Clonkerdin, County Waterford, whose tomb in Whitechurch burial-ground records his death in March, 1745, aged 68. He was therefore born in 1679, and being only twelve years of age on the attainting of his brothers, escaped that penalty. By his wife Catherine, who died in June, 1746, aged 71, and who is buried beside him, he had a son James, of Clonkerdin, who died 7th October, 1763, aged 57, and was also buried in the same vault. This James Power had four sons, Robert, James, Robert, and Alexander. Richard Power, the eldest son, of Clonkerdin, Esq., married Mary, the daughter of

Richard Power of Carrickaline, his brother (both grandsons of the aforesaid Piers Power of Carrigphillip, and who were both living at the Restoration), he extinct, is now most probably Mr. Poer, of Belleville, County Waterford.

To endeavour to trace the descendants of Major Roger Power and Richard Power, and show the lineage of the Ballybane and Belleville branch, is beyond the limits I have assigned to this paper. I will close the first part with a list of members of the Power family who are mentioned in vol. i., c. 8, c. 126, "Transplanters' Certificates," preserved in the Public Record Office:—

*Names of Members of the Power Family
Transplanted from the County Waterford,
A.D. 1653-1654.*

1. Piers Power Clonea
2. Stephen Power Ballinamonragh
3. Pector Power Culfín
4. Morris Power Curraghkells
5. Peirce Power Lissnegerigh
6. Nicholas Power Killballykilty
7. John Power Geogestown
8. Willyam Power Kearnleagh
9. Willyam Power Bellalogh
10. Peirce Power Knocklafaly
11. Nicho. Power Daneorattin
12. Walter Power Carrigestine
13. David Power Smore (Kilbolane ?)
14. John Power Donoyle²⁵
15. Peeter Power Colefin (?)
16. Walter Power Fenmore
17. Morris Power Adamstown
18. David Power Ballyskanlane
19. Pier Power Knocklafala
20. Richard Power, his brother, who died at Ballindrimmy.

Nineteen out of a total of seventy-nine persons transplanted from the County Waterford, were Powers.

Richard FitzGerald, of Inchycranagh, or Castle Richard (representative of the Seneschals of Lorkilly). He made his will in 1797, in which he mentions John Power, of Cashmore, Esq., as one of the trustees probably his second cousin, and at his death left an only child and heiress, Mary Anne, wife of the late John Quinlan, Esq., of Clonkettin.

²⁵ Eleanor, the daughter of John Power, 1st Baron of Donhill, married a kinsman, Arnold Power, of Garranorris, Esq., who was living in 1668. Their 2d grand daughter, Elizabeth Power, heiress of Garranorris, married John O'Shee, of Sheestown, High Sheriff for Co. Waterford.

Such a sweeping confiscation of the properties of one family is a melancholy confirmation of their influence and wealth; and it is surprising that, at the present day, in spite of their plundered ancestors' misfortunes, so many gentlemen of the name are still to be found amongst the landed proprietors of the County Waterford and elsewhere.

PART II.

To any reader who has carefully studied the foregoing Part, it will be at once apparent that the order of seniority of the three most ancient branches of the Poher family is—

1. The premier house of Donoyle, springing from Sir John de Poher, eldest son and heir of Sir Robert de Poher, 1st Baron.

2. The line of Dunbratyn, Rathgormyck, and Kells (see p. 9), which derived its origin from Walter de Poher, the youngest son of Sir Robert de Poher, 1st Baron by tenure. This house appears to have become extinct towards the end of the fourteenth century. Although a junior line, strictly speaking, to the house of Curraghmore, I have placed it No. 2 here, as having sprung into existence one generation before, in the person of Walter, uncle of the progenitor of the Curraghmore line. The latter, in the event of the Donoyle branch failing an heir at an early period, would have succeeded to the barony by tenure.

3. The House of Curraghmore, branching from the second Baron of Donisle, through Mathew de Poher, his third and youngest son, and, as already shown, hereditarily senior to the descendants of Walter de Poher, Lord of Dunbratyn. This distinguished branch, therefore, ranked as second only to the main stem of Donoyle.

Sir Robert de Poher, Lord of Waterford A.D. 1177, was succeeded by his eldest son, John de Poher, Baron of Donoyle. He in his turn passed the Feudal Barony, by tenure, to his eldest son, as already shown; and his third and youngest son, Mathew de Poher, in all probability erected the ancient Castle of Curraghmore or Coroghmore,²⁶ and it is from him that house originated. Mathew was

²⁶ Currach 270n, i.e., "Great Marsh."

succeeded by his son Eustace de Poer, who died A.D. 1311. He had two sons—Mathew, his heir (of whom presently), and a younger son, whose christian name was not been recorded,³⁷ but who is remarkable as being the ancestor of a family who adopted a different surname from that of their patronymic de Poher. Being the son of Eustace de Poher, and therefore in the Norman phraseology FitzEustace de Poher, his immediate descendants retained FitzEustace, and no longer called themselves Poer. That the family of FitzEustace or Eustace derived from a Sir Eustace de Poher, is warranted by their war-ery having been "Poeragh-aboo," the same as that of their kinsmen the Poers. Sir George Carew, well known for his versatility in Irish genealogies, referring to the Poers of Donhill or Kilmedan, notes:—"Out of this house all the Powers of Ireland, and the FitzEustaces, Viscounts of Balinglass, descend."³⁸ Again, he refers to them thus:—"Eustace alias Powar, Viscount of Balinglass, Lord of Kylecullen, to him and to his heirs male—A^d H. 8. 33^d. Their ancestor Robert Lord Powar was sent into Ireland with commission, and in his offspring hath rested here A.D. 1176."³⁹ And I also find the following interesting note regarding the family:—"A.D. 1303. Richard Bourke, Earl of Ulster, and L. Eustas le Power, entered into Scotland with a great power of men, and before their going the earl made 14 knights. Then died Gerald, son and heir to John FitzThomas. Mark that the Eustacys descended lineally of the second son of the aforesaid L. Ustas, which were very noble men in those days of knighthood and ability."⁴⁰

From the Eustaces descended the Lords and Baron of Kileullen, Lord Baron Portlester, and the Viscounts of Balinglass, all of which titles were held at various times by the family of FitzEustace or Eustace. The elder son of Sir Eustace de Poher (who died in 1311), Mathew de Poer, was living in 1340, and left by his wife Joan a son Richard,

who died 1371, leaving a son David Poer, who married Elenour, daughter of Nicholas Poer, Baron of Donoyle, Lord of Kilmoydan, who was summoned to Parliament by Writ as Baron, 1375, 1378, 1381, 1383, (see page 12). For the better understanding of subsequent events in the family of Curraghmore, to be referred to in detail hereafter, I wish to draw particular attention to the union by marriage of this David Poer with his kinswoman the Lady Elenour Poer. By this marriage it is quite plainly to be seen that the Poers, Lords of Curraghmore, descended in the male line from Sir Robert, Lord of Waterford; and in the female line only from Nicholas Poer, Baron of Donoyle, summoned to Parliament as Baron by Writ. It has been most erroneously stated, in several works on family history, pedigrees, &c., that the Powers of Curraghmore branched from the Donhill line in the person of Nicholas Poer, Baron by Writ. This is contrary to the actual fact, which is that they derive from him only through his daughter Elenour, and therefore could never legally possess the Barony by Writ, as their inheritance; but to this subject I shall refer again. David Poer had issue by his wife Elenour, a son,

Nicholas Poer, evidently called after his maternal grandfather, the Baron of Donoyle. He was succeeded by his son,⁴¹

Richard Poer, Lord of Coroghmore, who was Sheriff of the County Waterford for more than twenty years.

Regarding this powerful Anglo-Irish chieftain, an erroneous record exists, and one which should, I think, be placed in its proper light. It has been said (and apparently on good authority, and as if founded upon existing documents) that this Sir Richard le Poer was created Lord le Poer, Baron of "Coroghmore," by Henry VI. in 1452. This statement has crept into the "Annuary of the R.H.A.A.I." at page 181, and is found also in the "Peerage," by Sir B. Burke, under the title "Waterford" (where the very palpable mistake likewise occurs

37 Most probably his Christian name was *Eustace*.

38 Carew MSS., 635, p. 145.

39 Ib. c. 17; "The B. of Howth," p. 21.

40 Carew MSS., 1. 69, "Book of Howth," p. 126; and Hollinshed.

41 He had a daughter Elenor, sister of Richard Poer, Lord of Coroghmore, who married Sir J. a noble of Standon Castle, Daughyvan.—Burke's *Peerage*.—Oranmore.

of placing this Richard as the son and heir of Nicholas Poer, Baron of Donoyle, by Writ of Summons, whereas he was in reality his great-grandson, and that through his grandmother Elenour). As a matter founded upon fact and indubitable records, no peerage was created in 1452 for any person bearing the name of Poer. Lynch, in his work on "Feudal Dignities," says, "that no member of the Poer family was summoned among the barons from the fourteenth century until the year 1535,"⁴² when Sir Richard Power, knight (grandson, be it remembered, of the Richard Poer to whom I now refer), was created Lord Baron Power and Curraghmore." Had a peerage existed between the dates 1452 and 1535, the name of the possessor of it would easily be found in the lists of peers summoned to parliament. The explanation of this confusion is easy enough. Richard Poer at that date (1452) was Lord of Coroghmore, probably as lord of the manor, and, as his grandson, Sir Richard Power, who was beyond all doubt raised to the peerage, bore the same Christian name, a very slight cause would give rise to the blunder. I may add another opinion *contra*, which seems to me a weighty one. If Richard Poer had really been created a peer of the realm in 1452, it is not likely that in an unpublished act of Parliament of 1476, he would be referred to merely as "Richard Power, Sheriff of the County of Waterford," giving him no title whatever. In the same act appears "that the said Richard Power shall from this time be entirely divested of the said office of Sheriff." The following is the record from an unpublished act of Parliament of 1476⁴³: "Whereas, Richard Power is Sheriff of the County Waterford, and has been so for more than twenty years past, and he, out of his insatiate malice, as an enemy to God, and a rebel to the king, has by himself and people, and other rebels, made assault on the mayor, bailiffs, and commons of Waterford, both by sea and land, murdering and slaying divers

of the citizens, and spoiling and robbing them of their goods, and has put many of the citizens, but also foreigners resorting to the city for trade, as English, French, Spaniards, Portugals, Britains, and Flemings, to the utter destruction of the said city; and as in all the countries round about the said city there live no lords, gentlemen, nor commons, arrayed in English habit, nor submitting to the king's obedience, nor governed by his laws, but only the wicked and damnable law called Brehon law, contrary to divers statutes made against Brehon law; and as about the said city there is no rule or government, but murder and spoiling, robbery, and an universal rebellion; therefore it is enacted that the mayor and common council of Waterford for the time being shall from henceforth have the full election of a sheriff of the County of Waterford for ever annually, and that said Richard Power shall from this time be entirely divested of the said office." Had he been a peer, it seems probable his title would have been mentioned in this act. Premising, therefore, that he and his ancestors were lords of the manor of Coroghmore, powerful and affluent, but as yet not entitled to sit as peers in Parliament, I will pass on to his descendants. He died on the 3rd of October, 1483, and was buried in the Abbey of Mothel, near unto Coroghmore. His tomb is in the burial-place of the Powers of Gurteen, with the following inscription:—"Hic jacet Ricardus Poer sue nationis capitaneus qui obiit iii. die mensis Octobris anno Domini millesimo ccccxxxiii. cui [] Dominus. Amen." He left by his wife Katherine, dau. of Sir Richard Butler, of Polestown, second son of James, 3rd Earl of Ormond, three sons—1. Sir Piers, his heir; 2. Richard, of Feddans; 3. Sir Edmond Poer,⁴⁴ Knight of St. John of Jerusalem, Commander of Castlemore, 1449.

Sir Piers Poer, Lord of Coroghmore, eldest

⁴² From the time of Nicholas Poer, Baron of Donoyle, summoned by writ, 175, &c., until 1535, no Poer was summoned as a peer to attend Parliament.—See Lynch, *Feudal Dignities*.

⁴³ "Tracts relating to Ireland," vol. ii., Statutes of Kilkenny, p. 18; published by the Irish Arch. Society.

⁴⁴ Sir Edmond Poer. The following members of the De Poer or Poer family were Knights of St. John of Jerusalem: (1) Sir Maurice de Poer, 1419; (2) Sir Edmond de Poer, Commander of Castlemore, 1449; (3) Sir Michael de Poer, 1456; (4) Sir William Poer, 1514, 1515; (5) Sir Richard Poer, 1515; (6) Sir Edmond de Poer de la Poer, 22nd January, 1574.

son and heir, was also Sheriff of the County Waterford. It is said that he assumed authority over the entire county as if it were his own,⁴⁵ an assumption promoted by his marrying one of the Ladies Fitzgerald, of Decies, a daughter of Gerald Fitzgerald, 1st Lord of the Decies; and 2ndly a dau. of a still more potent house, that of Kildare.⁴⁶ By his 1st wife he had, with two daughters—Ellen, who married Walter Poer, Baron of Donoyle,⁴⁷ or of “Eydmedon or Eylmedon”; and Katherine, who married Sir John Grace, called Crios iaraan, the iron-belted Baron of Courtstown,—four sons: 1. Sir Richard, his successor, to whom I shall presently refer at length; 2. Piers Power, of Brenane; 3. Nicholas Power, of Corduffe;⁴⁸ 4. Sir William Power, Knight of St. John of Jerusalem, living 1514.

PART III.

I have purposely separated this part of my subject from the rest, and devoted a chapter to it, in order to prevent any confusion or misconception arising as to the origin of the barony. At the same time the generations will follow in a similar manner to Part II., beginning here with

Sir Richard Power, Lord of Coroghmore, eldest son of Sir Piers Poer and the Lady Fitzgerald, of the Decies. Sir Richard was Sheriff of the County of Waterford, as his father and grandfather had been before him. It was in the person of this very distinguished knight that the Barony of Power and Curraghmore originated. He was created a peer of Ireland by patent dated 13th Sept., 1535, when he was raised “to the estate, degree, title, name, and dignity of Baron de le Power and Coroghmore, in the County of Waterford, to hold the same estate, degree, title, name, and dignity to him and the male heirs of his body for ever, to be called the

Baron de le Power and Coroghmore, with place and seat in the parliaments and councils held within Ireland amongst the other barons.”

Copy of the Patent creating Sir Richard Power, Baron de le Power and Curraghmore, in the County of Waterford. Preserved at the British Museum.

Pro Ricardo Power } Henricus Octavus Dei gratia
Barone de le Power } Anglie et Francie Rex fidei
et Coroghmore. } defensor, Dominus Hibernie
et in terra Supremum Caput }
Anglicane Ecclesie omnibus ad quos presentes littere pervenerint salutem sciatis quod nos de gratia nostra speciali ac ex certa scientia et mero motu nostris necnon in consideratione veri et fidelis servitii nobis per dilectum et fidelem nostrum Ricardum Power militem multipliciter impensis et maxime in presentibus guerris in terra nostra Hibernie prefato Ricardum ad statum gradum titulum nomen et dignitatem Baronis de le Power et Coroghmore in comitatu nostro Waterford in terra nostra predicta prefecimus et ordinavimus ipsiunq[ue] Baronem de le Power et Coroghmore tenore presentium prefecimus et ordinavimus eidemq[ue] Ricardum nomen titulum et stilum Baronis de le Power et Coroghmore imp[er]sumus dedimus et prebimus ac per presentes damus et prebimus Habendum et tenendum eadem statum gradum titulum nomen et dignitatem prefato Ricardum et Heredibus masculis de corpore suo exeuntibus in perpetuum. Volentes et per presentes concedimus pro nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris quod prefatus Ricardus et heredes sui predicti statum gradum titulum nomen et dignitatem predicta successione gerant et habeant et eorum quilibet geret et habeat et per nomen Baronis de le Power et Coroghmore successione vocentur et nuncientur et eorum quilibet vocetur et nuncietur. Et quod idem Ricardus et heredes sui predicti successive Barones de le Power et Coroghmore in omnibus teneantur et ut Barones de le Power et Coroghmore tractentur et reputentur et eorum quilibet teneatur tractetur et reputetur habeantq[ue] teneant et possideant sedem et locum in parliaments et consiliis nostris et heredum et successorum nostrorum infra terram nostram predictam inter alios Barones ut Baro de le Power et Coroghmore necnon dictus Ricardus et heredes sui predicti gaudeant et utantur et eorum quilibet quandeat et utatur per nomen Baronis de le Power et Coroghmore omnibus et singulis rebus iuribus libertatibus privilegiis preminentibus et immunitatibus quibuscumq[ue] statui Baronis in omnibus rite et de jure pertinentibus quibus ceteri Barones diete terre nostre Hibernie ante hec tempora melius honorificentius et quietius usi sunt et gavisati aut in presenti gaudeant et utantur Eo quod expressa mentio de vero valore antiquo aut de certitudine premissorum sive eorum alicujus aut de aliis donis sive concessionibus per nos eidem Ricardum ante hec tempora factis in presentibus litteris quibuscumq[ue] existit alicui statuto ordinatione seu pacto seu sive restrictione iude in contrarium habito tacto ordinato

45 Adol. MS., 4819, “Complaints of his assuming the sovereignty of the county.”

46 Cartes MS., 655.

47 He presumed upon his relationship to the Baron of Donoyle to the precedence of him, although the baron was head of the house of Power.

48 “It is, they present that in the Countie of Waterford ar, besides the names written, in notable excoyones more, viz. old Sir Piers Power, of Corduff; Water Power” See Preface to the *Annals of the City of Waterford—Annals*, p. 19.

sive proviso aut aliqua alia re causa et materia quacunque in aliquo non obstantibus. In cuius rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste me ipso apud Oldeford tertio decimo die Septembris anno regni nostri viciesimo septimo.

PEXSALL.⁴⁹

Examinatur per litteras patentes ipsas.

Henry the Eighth, by the Grace of God, King of England and France, Defender of the Faith, Lord of Ireland, and on earth Supreme Head of the Church of England. To all whom the present Letters shall come, Greeting:

Know ye that we of our special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, and also in consideration of the true and faithful services manifoldly done to us by our beloved and faithful Sir Richard Power, knight, and especially in the present wars in our land of Ireland, have preferred and ordained, and by the tenor of these presents do prefer and ordain the aforesaid Richard to the estate, rank, title, name, and dignity of Baron of le Power and Coroghmore, in our County of Waterford, in our land aforesaid, and have imposed, given, and granted, and by these presents do give and grant to the same Richard, the name, title, and style of Baron of le Power and Coroghmore. To have and to hold the same estate, rank, title, name, and dignity to the aforesaid Richard and the heirs male issuing of his body for ever.

We willing, and by these presents we do grant for us, our heirs and successors, that the aforesaid Richard and his heirs aforesaid in succession bear and have, and every of them bear and have, the estate, rank, title, name, and dignity aforesaid, and in succession be called and designated, and every of them be called and designated by the name of Baron of le Power and Coroghmore. And that the said Richard, and his heirs aforesaid, be successively in all things held as Barons of le Power and Coroghmore, and be treated and reputed, and every of them be held, treated, and reputed as Barons of le Power and Coroghmore; and that they have, hold and possess a seat and place in the parliaments and councils of us, our heirs and successors, within our lands aforesaid, among the other Barons, as Baron of le Power and Coroghmore. And also that the said Richard and his heirs aforesaid, enjoy and use, and every of them enjoy and use, by the name of Baron of le Power and Coroghmore, all and singular such rights, liberties, privileges, pre-eminences, and immunities whatsoever pertaining lawfully and of right to the estate of Baron, which the other Barons of our said land of Ireland have heretofore honourably and quietly used and enjoyed, or at present enjoy and use.

Express mention in these presents is not made of the true yearly value, or of the certainty of the premises, or of either of them, or of other gifts or grants heretofore made by us to the same Richard, any statute, ordinance, act, provision or restriction to the contrary thereof, had, made, obtained or provided,

or any other thing, cause and matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding. In testimony whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

Witness ourselves at Oxford, the thirteenth day of September, in the twenty-seventh year of our reign.

This patent confers a title and certain honours and distinctions and privileges upon Sir Richard Power, and not alone upon him during the natural term of his life, but (in language which cannot be misconstrued) grants the same title, honours, distinctions, and privileges upon the heirs male of his body for ever—"Ricardo et heredibus masculis de corpore suo excutibus in perpetuum." It creates a peer of Ireland in the person of Sir Richard Power himself, and ordains that the barony with its accompanying honours shall legally and hereditarily descend to the male heirs, as long as a male heir of his body exists, "in perpetuum." By this patent, also, King Henry VIII. grants Sir Richard Power a place and seat in his parliaments and councils in Ireland, and to his heirs male the same privileges in the parliaments and councils of the succeeding sovereigns of England—"Habeantque teneant et possideant sedem et locum in parliamentis et consiliis nostris, et heredum et successorum nostrorum infra terram nostram predictam."

Lord Chancellor Audeley, writing to Thomas Cromwell, says:—"I have also made two patentes for two barons in Ireland, that is to say, to Sir Richard Power, Kt., and Thomas Eustace, gentleman. Cowley [Clerk of the Crown] showed me that the old course to make barons there is to have letters patentes out of the Chancery here in England: wherefore I have made and sealed the same patentes, and send them unto you for speede of the dispatche of Ireland [Irish] matters, praying you to move the king's grace thereof, and to order the said patentes as shall stand with his pleasure. Dated 13th Sept., 1535.—(State Papers, Hen. VIII., parts 1, 2, page 445, Record Tower, Dublin Castle.)

The receipt of the two patents was acknowledged October following in a "Bill indented made the tenth daie of October, in the xxvij yer of the reigne of our sovereigne King Henry VIII., witnesseth that I, John

⁴⁹ Ralph Pexsall, or Pexsall, was a noted Clerk of the Crown in England by patent of Henry VIII., which is enrolled on the Patent Roll, 15 Hen. VIII., part 2.

Alen, Master of the Rolls in Ireland, have received of the right honourable Mr. Thomas Cromwell, principall secretarie to our said sovereigne lorde, two patentees, one of creation for Thomas Ewstace, another like to Sir Richard Power, of barons of parliament in Ireland.”—(Extract from State Papers, Hen. VIII., vol. 2, No. 68.)

Taken along with the inquisition post mortem on his son, the 3rd lord (to be noticed presently), it will, I doubt not, be sufficiently apparent, that the Barony of “Le Power and Curraghmore,” with its accompanying honourable adjuncts, was, and is, the hereditary and just right of the direct male representatives of the 1st Lord, namely, Sir Richard Power, Lord Baron de le Power and Curraghmore, 1535.

The wife of the 1st Lord Power was the Lady Katherine Butler, second daughter of Piers Butler, 8th Earl of Ormonde, (who was created Earl of Ossory by Henry VIII., Feb. 23, 1527-8)⁵⁰ by his wife Margaret, 2nd dau. of Gerald, 8th Earl of Kildare. Sir Richard Lord Baron le Power and Coroghmore was slain while on service for the Crown against Irish rebels by the “traytor” Connogher or Owen O’Callaghan, on the 10th November, 1539.⁵¹ I find the following reference to Sir Richard Power among the Presentments of Juries of the City of Waterford:—“Item, that there was an office taken in the Countie of Waterford for the kynge after the death of Sr Ric^d Pover, t fonde that Pers Pover being wⁱⁿ age is the king’s warde, t the said Sr Richard dyed seased of the manor or

Castell of Carraghmore, the Castell of Clonhey, the Castell of Kylm^otomassyn, w^t their appurtenances, Knokdyrry, Balylogh, Knockmyles, the Crosse, t divers other villages as Calleghan,” &c.

A word here will not be out of place having reference to Lady Katherine Power, Baroness de le Power; and to her mother, Margarete, Countess of Ormonde. The latter survived her husband, the Earl of Ormonde, and it is said ruled the Ormonde territory “with a rod of iron” during the minority of her son. Among the peasantry of the County Kilkenny many traditions regarding her exist, and to this day she is referred to by them as ΜΑΓΓΕΤΑΡ ΗΗΘ ΖΕΑΡΟΤΟ, *i.e.*, Margaret ny Gerald. In like manner, her daughter, the Lady Katherine Power, after her husband’s decease in 1539, governed her son’s country with a strong hand, thus following the example of her mother, whose repute, no doubt, aided her in her authority.

“The theme of the Presentment of the Commons of the County of Waterford to the Royal Commissioners, A.D. 1537, consists principally in setting forth the list of exactions and impositions used by Lady Katherine Power. Lord Power had died shortly before the date of these representations; but his widow governed her son’s country with as much vigour as her mother, when also a widow, had ruled the Ormonde territory. It seems, however, that the Baroness was much supported by the widespread authority of the Countess, whose soubriquet as given in the presentment, *viz.*, ‘Magheen,’ or little Margaret, is an amusing instance of the Irish practice of giving nick-names, which were usually antiphrastic; for it cannot but be imagined that this Countess was as great in body as in mind.”—(See *Annuary R.H.A.A.I.* for 1868 and 1869.)

“The verdict of the Comyners of the Countye of Waterford.” Among the jurors I find the names of Willius Fitz-Robert Poyer, and Willius Fitz-Nicholas Poyer:—

“We fynde that the Countie of Waterforde belongeth only to sov’aigne lorde the king, and that all the baronyes and freeboldes of the same, immediately be holden of his goode grace and of none other, ne of no Poyer,

⁵⁰ At the death, in 1515, of Thomas Butler, 7th Earl of Ormonde, the peerage passed to his kinsman, Sir Pierce Butler, who became 8th Earl of Ormonde; but this nobleman was obliged to relinquish it to Thomas Viscount Rochford, who was the eldest son of Margaret Butler, 2nd daughter of Thomas the 7th Earl of Ormonde. In consideration of this abandonment, Sir Pierce was created by Henry VIII., on the 23rd Feb., 1527-8, Earl of Ossory. Thomas Boleyne, Earl of Ormonde, dying *sp.* in 1527, the king restored the Earl of Ossory to his original title of Ormonde. Thomas Boleyne, Earl of Ormonde, was the son of Sir Wm. Boleyne, K.R., by his wife Margaret Butler above, and mother of George Boleyne, Lord Rochford, beheaded 1537, and of Anne Boleyne, the unfortunate queen of Henry VIII., and mother of Queen Elizabeth.

⁵¹ According to the Peerage-book, Sir Richard was slain in service against the Irish rebels in 1539 or 1541, but the date is an evident mistake, for he was lately “deceased” when the County of Waterford drew up their “verdict,” and when his marching widow “Dame Katherine” ruled the county in the name of their son and heir, “pretending the King’s County was his by succession of inheritance.” Sir Richard was slain by “the traytor” Connogher O’Callaghan before the year 1538.—(Published State Papers, vol. n.)

Butler, nether Geraldyn, nether beryth to none of them no sute nor service.

"We fynde also that Sir Pyers Poer and his father, Rycharde Poer, the later, were, and ev'y of them, was the king's Sheryf of the foresaide Countye of Watford, and ev'y of them ruled ye same by thautorite of ther office; and after by contynuance of tyme they usurped on the king's auctorite and toke them to be as lordes of the said countye, nntyll Maghyn and they ruled the hole countye at ther pleasures by extort power oppressing the king's subjects.

"And Dame Katheryn Butler [Lady Catherine Power, daughter of Piers, Earl of Ormond, and his wife 'Mageen,' and widow of Sir Richard, Lord Power of Curraghmore] dayle useith lyke extortion, impositions, and unlawfull exactions, as used the aforesaide Poers by ther tyme; and nowe in the name of younge Pyers Poer, soune unto the late deceased Sr Rycharde Poer, and Katheryn Butler, pretending as lorde and inherytor of the King's Countye [Waterford] by cession of inherytance."

A very long list of "exactions and impositions useid by the foresayde Poers, and nowe by the Lady Katherine Poer, *alias* Butler," is then given in the presentments, a few of which will illustrate the customs of the period, and show that Lady Katherine exercised a firm and not always a just rule:—

"Fyrste, coyne and lvy'e, bothe horsse and man, contynually upon all the king's subjects.

"Item, if the Lorde Deputye, or any greater man be conveyed by the said Katherine, but she wylle commaunde a subsyde to be levyed upon the countrey for meate, drynke, and candel llyght, to the lords plesar.

"Item, my Lorde Butler came into this countie by the sufferance of my Lady Katheryn, and eyde of certen p'sons, viz., Whelans, and take away forcibly certayne kyen and cattall from the king's subjects, and from them that was doing the king's s'uice, as Poer of Kylwedan; as Mr. Seintlowe and Mr. Wyse maye testyfy farther at length.

"Item, now this present tyme, the forsayde Lady Katherin, intending to goo to Dublyn, cesseyth the countrey for her going thither,

and for the conveinge gyven by her to her fader, to the some of xxi. mks, and this to be levied of the king's subjects.

"Item, the saide Lady Katherin did levye and take up of the subiects xviii^s shepe for her hande maydens.

"Item, Katheryn Butler denyed, and dysobeyed the king's auctorite, forlyddeing Jamys Wyse to execute the office of senyallship, in which office the said Jamys was anctorysed by the king's deputye, whiche auctorite he declared to herre, and to herre audyence."

Such was the extravagant dominion exercised by the House of Curraghmore, as evidenced in these verdicts, of which I have given a few illustrations. In 1543, indeed, a subsidy of £30 yearly was agreed to be paid to the royal revenue out of the "Poerine County" (Additional MSS. Brit. Mus., 4,790, p. 99); but in June, 1549, the freeholders of the county addressed a complaint to the Lord Deputy, that Lord Power had, without right, cessed and distrained upon them six shillings upon every ploughland, reserving all lands that hitherto have been free.

Lady Katherine Power, mentioned so frequently in these presentments, married secondly Sir James Fitzgerald, Earl of Desmond, and dying at Askeaton, 17th March, 1552, is there buried.

Sir Richard, Lord Power, left at his death 3 sons and 2 daughters, viz., (1) Piers, his successor (of whom presently); (2) John, heir to his brother; (3) Hon. Thomas Power, of Coolfin; Katherine; and Elice, wife of Sir Thomas Fitzgerald, of Desmond.

52 Lady Katherine Power, daughter of Sir Richard Power, the first Lord Power and Coroghmore, married Sir Nicholas Devereux, knight, of Balmagry, Co. Wexford. Some interesting records are extant referring to this Sir Nicholas Devereux and his wife Katherine, dau. of Lord Power. The following are two of the Presentments of Justices of the County of Waterford, A.D. 1537:—"Item, Nicholas Dew'x of Ballymagry horses and horsegomes and other horseis was lyved in the countrey the last night past by the assignation of Katherin Butler." "Item, the foresaide Nicholas Dew'x receiveth in wards marriage a shepe of ev'y croo or shephehouse, and a cow of ev'y village, other the value of 3s in money." He was evidently a ward of Richard, Lord Power, from the statement that he received his curious portion "in ward marriage" with this nobleman's daughter. The dowry is mentioned in the Presentments of the City of Waterford also thus:—"Item, they present that the said Lady [widow of Lord Power] married her daughter to Nicholas Dew'x of Ballymagry to use a kyen t' shepe towards her marriage of ev'y village of the countrey, which cattel her daughter Katheryn Dew'x tookt away to her use." This marriage portion was customary among the Gaelic class, and feudal lords had a similar privi-

The Hon. Thomas Power, of Coolfin, or Cullfin, County of Waterford, armiger, married a daughter of Thomas Tobin, of Cumpshinagh, County Tipperary, Esq., by Elinor, sister to James, Earl of Desmond, and had a daughter Elinor married to Thomas, brother of Edmond, Viscount Mountgarrett; and a son James Power, of Coolfin, whose first wife was a daughter of Pierce FitzHenry, in the County Wexford, by whom he left a son Thomas, who, dying on the 15th December, 1697, left issue by his wife Margaret, daughter of Peter Butler, of Monyhory, County Wexford, 4 sons and 4 daughters, viz., (1) Peter (of whom presently); (2) Richard, who married Gyles, daughter of David Power, of Coolroe, County Waterford; (3) John; and (4) James. The daughters were, Joan, who *d.s.p.*; Gyles, who married Jeffrey Fanning, of Fanningstown, County Tipperary; Katherine; and Margaret, the wife of Richard Power, of Ballincurry, County Waterford.

Peter Power, of Coolfin, Esq., eldest son of Thomas, married Katherine, daughter of William Wall, of Clonymuck, or Coolnamuck, County Waterford. This Peter Power was one of the "Transplanted."

Piers Power, eldest son and heir, 2nd Lord Power and Coroghmore. He was colonel-in-chief of the 700 men sent from Ireland, who served King Henry VIII. in such good stead at the siege of Boulogne, for which he was dubbed Knight, 1544. (Hollinshed, 314).

lega, limited by law. Sir Nicholas Devereux represented one of the most considerable Norman-Irish families in the County Wexford. He lost livery of his estate 21 May, 1510; was knighted for distinguished services in protecting his native county; and died in 1576. His wife died 5th Feb., 1581. A connexion by marriage existed at that period between the three families of Power of Curraghmore, Devereux of Balmagit, and Redmond of The Hall, Co. Wexford. A sister of the above Sir Nicholas Devereux, Jane Devereux (who died in 1542), married Robert de Raymond, or Redmond, Esq., of "Redmond Hall," and had a daughter who married Nicholas Power, the son of Edmond Power, of Mothel, and grandson of the first Lord Power and Curraghmore. Her brother Robert Redmond, the younger son of Robert Redmond, Esq., of The Hall, and Lady Jane Devereux, was secretary to the Bishop of Lismore and Waterford, and in 1568 was deputed to go to Cardinal Carafa, Legate in Flanders or Brabant (because at the time Cardinal Carafa had not received his powers), in order to obtain a dispensation for the marriage of McCarthy & Co. with the Lady Helena FitzGerald, the fourth daughter of James FitzJohn, the nineteenth Earl of Desmond, and sister of the Lady Elinor who married Sir John Power, third Lord Power and Curraghmore, whose nephew Nicholas Power was the husband of the first Lord Power's sister. Robert Redmond's letter to the Cardinal on behalf of Desmond is extant, signed Robert Remon, and dated March 24th, 1568.

He died, unmarried, on the 16th Oct., 1545, and was buried in the Abbey of Mothel.

In 1545, Sir William Wyse excuses himself to the Lord Deputy for not levying a tax for galloglasses in the shire of Waterford, alleging that he could not raise it, owing to the arbitrary conduct of Lady Katherine Power; and he afterwards writes, 5th January, from Waterford, that Lord Power having died, the Earl of Ormond and his sister Lady Katherine will be at the Abbey of Mothel, beside Coroghmore, where they intend to celebrate an obsequy for Lord Power's soul, and that much devotion of meat and drink is prepared there. "The poor people are like," he says, "to sing *requiescant in pace*, but the more they cry the more sorrow increaseth."—(State Papers.)

His brother, Sir John Power, surnamed Mor, 3rd Lord Power and Coroghmore, succeeded to the estates, title, and dignities. He was born in 1516, and died on the 8th November, 1592, leaving by his wife, the Lady Elenour FitzGerald, 3rd daughter of James FitzJohn, 14th Earl of Desmond (Lord High Treasurer of Ireland), and sister of Gerald FitzGerald, 15th and last Earl of Desmond—whose estates, consisting of nearly 800,000 acres, were forfeited in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, 1583—six sons: (1) Richard, his heir; (2) the Hon. Piers Power of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell, of whom hereafter (See Part IV.); (3) Hon. David; (4) Hon. Thomas, who married the daughter of FitzGerald, Baron of Burnchurch, and widow of Robert Power, Baron of Donoye, who died 1587; (5) Hon. Maurice; and (6) Hon. William.

Sir Richard Power, the first Lord Power and Coroghmore, as already stated, had three legitimate sons, viz., Piers, 2nd Lord; Sir John, 3rd Lord; and the Hon. Thomas Power, Coolfin. He had, however, besides these, two illegitimate sons, Edmond and Nicholas. Of Edmond I shall treat presently. Nicholas Power, the younger of the two, married, according to Carew MS. 635, a daughter of Thomas Tobin, of the Comsie, County Tipperary, by Elinor, sister of James, Earl of Desmond, and had issue Walter Power, of Lisnapan, County Waterford, who married "one in the Poweris Countrye";

(2) Morice; (3) William; (4) Nicholas, whose wife was the daughter of one of the Powers. Miss Tobin, the wife of Nicholas Power, married secondly, Moroghe Ballagh M'Shee; and thirdly, William FitzJohn FitzGerald, Knight of Kerry.

Of Edmond Power, the elder of the two illegitimate sons of Richard, Lord Power, some interesting records exist. I think it almost beyond the realms of doubt that he was identical with the Edward Power, last Abbot of Mothel, in the County of Waterford. The following account of that religious house is taken from Ryland's "History of Waterford," p. 297, and will be interesting in connection with the Power Family:—

"At Bollandesart and at Mothil in the neighbourhood of Carrigbeg, there were two famous religious houses; of the former nothing is known further than that it was built, probably in the sixth century, by St. Maidec of Ferns; the latter was also constructed at the same time, or even at an earlier period, for we find that in the sixth century St. Coan succeeded St. Brogan, who was the founder of the abbey, and the first abbot. The abbey of Mothil was established for Canons Regular of St. Augustin, though some assert that it belonged to the Cistercians. The abbots were long engaged in disputes about their property, and in one case which occurred in 1296, the Abbot Adam was non-suited, he having sued by the name of Abbot of Mothull. Edward Power, the last abbot, surrendered the abbey, 7th April, 31 K. Hen. VIII (1540); being then seised of the same, also of the church, steeple, and cemetery, hall, five chambers, dormitory, kitchen, granary, two stables, an orchard, and other closes, containing six acres, all within the precincts of the abbey, together with lands in Mothil, Kilenaspiecke, Kilberny, and Grange Morlery, exceeding 700 acres; and also the rectories of Ruthgormuck, Moynelargy, and Ballylaneen, all which were appropriated to this abbey. In two years afterwards, all these possessions were granted to — Butler and Peter Power, at the annual rent of £6 4s., Irish money. The ruins of this ancient abbey cover a large extent; the

west and south walls of what was probably the church, are still standing. In the latter, a beautiful Saxon arch, about 12 ft. high, opens into a small square chamber; part of the ancient arch has been recently filled up, leaving a narrow entrance, to which an iron gate has been attached In the small building which appears to have been reserved for the interment of particular families, two of the sculptured stones are inserted in the wall opposite the entrance, under a piece of ornamental work. Around a flat tombstone in this place is the following inscription, in large Roman capitals:—'Hic jacet Gualterus Power, generosus oriundo exantio Familia Johannis Gulielmi et uxor ejus Caterina Phelan qui suis sumptibus construxerunt hoc monumentum, 16 Junii, 1628. Quorum. Animiab. Proprietur Deus.' In the ruins of the large building an iron railing encloses the burial-place of the Powers of Gurteen. In the enclosure is a very ancient tomb." I think it is extremely probable that the last abbot of Mothil mentioned in the foregoing extract was Edmond, or Edward Power, the illegitimate son of the first Lord Power and Curraghmore; and the Walter Power, whose name is recorded on the tombstone, was possibly his nephew, the son of Nicholas, to whom I have already referred as marrying "one in the Poweris Countrye," presumably Catherine Phelan, a County Waterford family name. The following records would seem to strengthen my surmise that the last abbot of Mothil was the son of the first Lord Power:—

"A.D. 1539-41. — Cal. Patent and Close Rolls, Chancery, Ireland, Henry VIII., Membrane 6.

"No. 37.—Surrender by Edmond Power, Abbot, with the consent of the Convent of the Abbey of Sts. Coan and Brogan, of Mothill, in the County of Waterford, April 7, 31.

"No. 28.—Surrender by Edmund Power, Prior, with the consent of the Convent of the Priory of St. Katherine, near Waterford, Oct. 6, 31.

"A.D. 1545.—Membrane 6, Henry VIII., No. 7. Grant to Edward Powre, bastard brother of the late Lord Power, of the church, came-

tery, site, and possessions of the late abbey, cell, or monastery of Saints Koam and Brogan, otherwise called Brogam of Mothell, Kyleneaghe, *alias* Kilbrenn, Rathgormyke, Monolargy, otherwise Molargy, Ballylaughlyn, otherwise Ballylanyn, near Maghlyn, Teamplewoke, and Templeyn, in the County of Waterford and the Grange of Moekelere, in the County of Compsy, or Comsbenahe, in the County of Tipperary, the possessions of the said late house, to hold for the term of his life. Reciting a lease dated Aug. 1st, 33 Hen. VIII., of the same monastery and all its possessions to Katherine Butler, of Carraghmore, and Peter, late Power, for 21 years. May 2nd, 37" (1545).

This grant proves indubitably that Edward, or Edmond Power was natural son of Richard first Lord, and brother of Piers the second Lord, who died October 1545, and was buried in the Abbey of Mothel. The date of this grant is just five years after the surrender of the abbey by Edward Power, the last abbot, and it seems to me altogether improbable that the Edward Power to whom the abbey and its possessions were granted in 1545, was a different individual. On the contrary the presumption is in favour of my theory, that the last abbot was granted these lands for his life, through, perhaps, the influence of his brother, Lord Power and the Lady Katherine Butler.

"In 1549.—Pardon was granted to Edmond Power, of Mothill.

"In 1568-9.—Pardon again granted to the same.

"In 1569.—Edmond Power, of Mothil, gent., commissioned to execute martial law in the County of Waterford.

"In 1570-1.—Pardon to Edmond Fitz-Richard Poer, of Mothel, gent., late Sheriff of the County of Waterford.

"In 1570.—Edmond Power, Sheriff of the County of Waterford; John Power, of Feddanns, gent., and others, were commissioned to make inquisition of the number of acres in County Waterford, to extend it into ploughlands, and divide into baronies; to find what places are cessable, and to divide the county into four quarters or

cantreds, dividing any of these into baronies.

"In 1576.—Sir Nicholas Devereux, of Balmagir, County Wexford, conveyed to Edward (Edmond) Power, of Mothyll, in the County of Waterford; Alexander Redmond, of The Hooke, County Wexford, and others, certain lands in said County Wexford, for his own use, remainder to Dame Katherine, his wife, who was daughter of the first Lord Power.

"In 1579.—Pardon to Edmond Fitz-Richard Power, of Mothel, gent.

"In 1584.—Pardon to Nicholas Power Fitz-Edmond (probably of Mothel)."

Edmond Power, the natural son of Richard, Lord Power, married first a daughter of M'Brian Conaghe, by whom he had a son Nicholas Power, probably the Nicholas Power Fitz-Edmond mentioned in the pardon, 1584. This Nicholas Power, of Mothel, married a daughter of Robert Redmond, of The Hall and of The Hooke, County Wexford, by his wife Jane, daughter of Sir Nicholas Devereux, of Balmagir. Edmond Power married secondly a daughter of Thomas Tobin, of the Cumbie, County Tipperary, and sister of his brother's wife, and had one son, Thomas Power.

Richard Power, eldest son and heir, 4th Lord Power and Coroghmore, succeeded Sir John, the 3rd Lord. He died at Coroghmore, 8th August, 1607, leaving issue by his wife, the Hon. Katherine de Barry, third daughter and co-heiress of John de Barry, Viscount Buttevant, 2 sons, John, and the Hon. Piers Power of Monolargie (of whom hereafter), and a daughter Elizabeth, the wife of David, only son of David Viscount Buttevant, who died in *vita patris*, leaving by her David, created first Earl of Barrymore, in 1627. (See Part IV.)

The Hon. John Power (Oge), eldest son of Richard, the 4th Lord. He was killed, in the lifetime of his father, by Edmund Fitz-Gibbon, the White Knight, in the king's service (Cal. Pat. R., p. 105), leaving by his wife, Hon. Hellen de Barry, second dau. of David, Viscount Buttevant, a son and heir, John, and a daughter, the Honorable Mary Power, who married Philip McGrath, of Sledy Castle,

Co. Waterford,⁵³ and regarding whom quite a romance of the 17th century has been written. The Hon. Hellen Power, after the death of her husband, married secondly Thomas Butler, tenth Earl of Ormond, and had a grant of the wardship of her son John, 7th December, 4 Jac. I. (Cal. Pat., p. 105); and thirdly, Sir Thomas Somerset, Viscount Cashel, Knight of the Bath, third son of Edward, fourth Earl of Worcester, ancestor of the Dukes of Beaufort. Richard, the 4th Lord, was succeeded at his death in 1607, by his grandson John, then aged 8 years and a-half (Lodge—1754), eldest son of the Hon. John Power, by Hellen, dau. of the Viscount Buttevant.

John Power, 5th Lord Power and Coroghmore, succeeded his grandfather. Being a lunatic, he escaped "Transplantation." Among the applications to the commissioners in 1654 for dispensation from Transplantation, is one on behalf of John, Lord Baron Power, of Curraghmore, "for that he had for twenty years past been distracted and destitute of all judgment." Wardship was granted to his mother, 4 Jac. I. Of this lord the following incident is related—a story which I cannot in any way substantiate. "It chanced that the Lord of Coroghmore had a shrewd daughter, who, knowing her father to be a staunch Royalist, devised a plan to save him, and cleverly put it into execution. She contrived to entice the old man into one of the dungeons of the Castle, and there she safely bolted and barred him in. She then received Cromwell at the door, and placed the key of the Castle in his hands. She assured him, that although her father had thought it prudent to remove for a time out of the way, he was not only well disposed towards the ruling powers, but willing to give any proof of his allegiance that might be required. The consequence was, that Curraghmore remained in possession of its lord."⁵⁴ It happened coincidentally that the name of the last Baron of Donoyle, whose

misfortunes have been already narrated, was, also, John Power.⁵⁵ By his wife Ruth, daughter and heiress of Robert Phypoe, of St. Mary's Abbey, Dublin, Lord Power left at his death in 1661, seven children, viz. (1) Richard, his son and heir; (2) Hon. Piers Power, of Kilowen, Esq., whose male line is extinct⁵⁶; (3) Hon. Robert, *d. s. p.*; (4) Hon. John, *d. s. p.*; (5) Hon. David, *d. s. p.*; (6) Hon. Elenor Power, who married Thomas Walsh, of Piltown, Esq.; (7) Hon. Katherine Power, who, in 1658, married Sir John FitzGerald, of Dromana, Lord of the Decies, who died in 1662, by whom she left a daughter and heiress, the Lady Katherine FitzGerald, of Dromana, Lady of the Decies, who was married, first to her first cousin, John Power, 7th Lord Power; and 2ndly, in 1677, to the Hon. Edward Villiers, a Brigadier-General in the army, eldest son of George Villiers, 4th Viscount Grandison.⁵⁷ The 5th Lord Power's wife, Ruth Phypoe, died before 17th of June, 1642, at which date the children were young and helpless, as shown by the petition of Kinborough Phypoe, their maternal grandmother.

"Petition of Kinborough Phypoe, widow, grandmother of the 5th Lord Power's seven distressed motherlesse children, ye eldest sonne being 12 years of age, ye second fower yeares, ye third three, ye fourth scarce two," &c. This petition is dated 17 June, 1642, and in it no mention is made of the age of the daughters. Lodge says that the 5th Lord Power had nine children—five sons and four daughters, and mentions Margaret and Mary, in addition to those I have given; but the grandmother's statement in the petition

⁵³ The 5th Lord Power was born either in 1599 or 1600. Lodge says that he was eight and a-half years old in 1617, and in the list of peers under age, and peers' sons sent to England for education in 1615, Lord Power appears, then aged fifteen.

⁵⁶ The Honourable Piers Power, of Kilowen, Esq., whose will was proved on the 10th May, 1669, and who was buried at Clonigun, married the Hon. Honora Burke, daughter and co-heiress of John, Lord Baron of Brittas, by whom he had a daughter, Ruth.

⁵⁷ Judith, who was heiress of the Kilowen line, and who became the wife of Thomas Duckett, and was mother of Thomas Duckett, ancestor of the Ducketts of Duckett's Grove, County Carlow.

⁵⁸ This viscounty expired in 1800, by the marriage of Gertrude-Amelin, sole dau. and heir of George Villiers, Earl of Grandison, with the Hon. Henry Stuart, 4th son of the 1st Earl of Bute, and grandfather of the present Mr. Henry Villiers Stuart, D.L., of Dromana.

⁵³ See my article "Stedy Castle and its Tragedy," page 302, vol. viii., 4th series, Jan. and April, 1888, where, however, she was erroneously stated to be the daughter of the 5th Lord Power, instead of dau. of the Hon. John Power, and sister of the 5th Lord.

⁵⁴ See Sir B. Burke's "Romance of the Aristocracy," vol. I., p. 81. London, 1855.

as to the number seven, must be accepted as correct.

Richard Power, eldest son and heir, 6th Lord Baron Power and Coroghmore, born 1630, twelve years old in 1642, succeeded his father the 5th Lord in 1661, being then thirty-one years of age. He was M.P. for the County of Waterford, and governor of the city and county. On the 9th of October, 1679, he was created Viscount of Decies and Earl of Tyrone, to him and the heirs male of his body, holding at the time, as 6th Lord, the Barony of le Power and Coroghmore. He was colonel of a regiment of foot in the service of King James II., and died a Jacobite prisoner in the Tower of London, 14th October, 1690; buried at Farnboro, Hants. He married, in 1654, the Lady Dorothy Annesley, eldest dau. of Arthur, Earl of Anglesea and Viscount Valentia. She was buried in the Cathedral of Waterford. He left at his death two sons, John and James.

John Power, the elder son and heir, 7th Lord Baron de le Power and Coroghmore, and 2nd Earl of Tyrone. It is said that he appeared after his death to Lady Beresford, and foretold to her, amongst other matters, the marriage of his niece, Lady Katherine Power, with her son, Sir Marcus Beresford. In Prendergast's "Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland," it is stated that—"After the Restoration, Colonel Poer, in Munster, Colonel Coughlan, in Leinster, and Colonel Dudley Costelloe, in Connaught, dispossessed of their hereditary properties, headed bands that gave infinite trouble." He married Katherine FitzGerald, of Dromana, Lady of the Decies, his first cousin, the daughter and heiress of Sir John FitzGerald, of Dromana, and of Katherine Power, sister of his father, the 6th Lord. They were married by the Archbishop of Canterbury when she was but twelve and he eight. Later on, she pleaded the marriage had been brought about by the undue influence of her uncle and guardian, Richard Power, 6th Lord Power and 1st Earl of Tyrone, and in 1677 she married the Hon. Edward Villiers, son of the Viscount Grandison. John, 7th Lord Power, died issueless on the 14th October, 1693, and was buried in the Pro-

testant Church at Carrick-on-Suir. He was succeeded by his brother,

James Power, 8th Lord Baron de le Power and Coroghmore, and 3rd Earl of Tyrone, heir to his brother John. He was Governor of the City and County of Waterford. He died on the 19th August, 1704, when the Viscounty of Decies and Earldom of Tyrone, created in 1679 in the person of his father, the 6th Lord, became extinct, but the Barony of le Power and Coroghmore devolved upon the heir male, Colonel John Power, of Monargie, whose descent from the 1st Lord is shown hereafter. Earl James was buried in the church of Carrick-on-Suir. The present Mansion House of Curraghmore was built in 1700 by this Earl, but the date of the erection of Curraghmore Castle is not recorded. By his wife Anne, daughter and co-heiress of Andrew Rickards, of Dangau-Spidoge (whom he married on the 13th December, 1692, and who died 26th September, 1729, and was buried with her husband), he left an only child, a daughter, the Lady Katherine Power, of Curraghmore. She married, on the 16th of July, 1717, Sir Marcus Beresford, 4th Baronet, eldest son of Sir Tristram Beresford, 3rd Bart., by his wife Nichola-Sophia, second dau. and co-heiress of Hugh Hamilton, Baron of Glenawley. Sir Marcus Beresford, in consequence of his marriage with Lady Katherine Power, was created Earl of Tyrone on the 18th of July, 1746. He died in 1763 on the 4th April, and was buried at Clonagam. The eldest surviving son, George de la Poer Beresford, succeeded his father as 2nd Earl of Tyrone, and was created Marquis of Waterford, in the Peerage of Ireland, on the 19th August, 1759. He was great grandfather of the present Lord Waterford.

In 1767, Lady Katherine Beresford petitioned for the Barony of Poer, which was created in the person of Nicholas Poer, Baron of Donoye, Lord of Kilmedan, who was summoned to parliament by writ on the 23rd November, 1275, and again in 1373, 1381, and 1383 (see page 5). These ancient writs created no peerage, the fact about Nicholas Poer being simply that he was summoned by

writ among the other barons of Ireland, as being Baron of Donoylc. Nevertheless, Lady Katherine Beresford's claim was admitted, although her descent from Nicholas Poer was through the marriage of his daughter Elenour with her paternal ancestor, David Poer, Lord of Coroghmore (see page 28). "The anomalous decision in 1763" [when Lady Katherine Power, then Dowager Countess of Tyrone, widow of Sir Marcus Beresford, 1st Earl of Tyrone, was allowed this supposed barony] "was founded on the idea that (as in England) a barony could be created by writ in Ireland—an idea not only contrary to all previous practice, but even to common sense, making the writ of a subject (*i.e.*, the Lord Lieutenant, who frequently, *sponté sud*, issued it) equal to that of the Crown."⁵³ The following is the "draft report" on the claim to the Barony of Poer by writ:—

Endorsed—

To his Excellency the Earl of Northumberland.

Draft of the Report of the Attorney and Solicitor General on the petition of Catherine, Dowager Countess of Tyrone; Glascock, Agent.

To their Excellencies the Lords Justices of Ireland.

In obedience to an order of reference, bearing date the 11th day of May, made by his Excellency the Earl of Northumberland, referring to us the consideration of the annexed petition of Catherine Countess Dowager of Tyrone, claiming the title and dignity created by the writ of summons in virtue of which Nicholas Lord Le Poer sat and voted in the parliament of Ireland in the 48th year of the reign of King Edward the Third.

We have considered the said petition and have been attended by the council and agent for the petitioner.

The said petition sets forth, That the ancestor of the petitioner, Sir Roger Le Poer,⁵⁴ came into Ireland in the reign of King Henry the Second, and was distinguished for his services in that kingdom to the crown of England.

That Nicholas Le Poer, his lineal descendant and heir, was summoned to the parliament of Ireland as a baron by writ in the 48th year of the reign of King Edward the Third, and sat and voted in virtue of the said writ as a baron, and again sat and voted as a baron in the same reign, and afterwards in the reign of Richard the Second; and died seized of this dignity and honour to him and his heirs who sat and voted as barons in the parliament of Ireland by that title, till the 25th of King Charles the Second, at which period Richard Lord de la Poer, the

petitioner's grandfather, to whom the said barony had come by mesne descents, was by letters patent created Earl of Tyrone, and that on his death the said Earldom descended to John, his eldest son and heir, and to the heirs male of his body, and the said barony to him in fee.

That John died without issue, and the earldom descended to James, his brother and heir, and to the heirs male of his body, and the barony to him and heirs.

That James died without heirs male of his body in the year 1704, leaving the petitioner, his only child and heir, and the barony descended to her as such.

That the petitioner intermarried in the year 1717, during her minority, with Sir Marcus Beresford, afterwards created Earl of Tyrone, and the said Earl died on the 4th day of April, 1763.

And therefore the petitioner prays that the title and dignity created by the said writ of summons by virtue of which the said Nicholas Lord Le Poer sat and voted in parliament, may be declared by the King's most excellent majesty to belong as of right to the petitioner and her heirs.

In order to support the case stated by the petitioner, the following propositions are necessary to be proved:

That the barony of Le Poer was vested in fee in Nicholas le Poer, in the 48th of King Edward the Third.

That Richard Lord Baron de le Poer and Curraghmore, who was created Viscount Decies and Earl of Tyrone in the 25th year of the reign of King Charles the Second, was seized of the said barony in fee.

That the petitioner is heir general and sole heir to the said Richard.

In order to prove that the said Nicholas le Poer was seized of the said barony in fee, the following evidence was laid before us, which we have annexed to this our report:

An attested copy of an original record remaining in the Office of the Rolls of the Court of Chancery of a writ of summons, dated at Naas the 22nd day of November in the 48th year of King Edward the Third, directed to the Archbishop of Armagh, by which the said archbishop was summoned to a parliament which was then appointed to be held at Dublin on the octave of St. Hillary then next ensuing; and an attested copy of a writ of summons of the same date to the same parliament, directed to James Butler, Earl of Ormond, which said record mentions that the like writs of summons to the same parliament, word for word, and of the same date, were directed Comitibus, Magnatibus, et Proceribus Subscriptis, and among many other lords, to Nicholas Poer.

An attested copy of an original record remaining in the Office of the Rolls of the Court of Chancery in this kingdom of a writ of summons, dated at Tristledermot the 22nd day of January in the first year of Richard the Second, directed to the archbishop of Dublin, by which the said archbishop was summoned to a parliament which was then appointed to be held at Tristledermot aforesaid on the Monday next after the feast of Everinus next following,

⁵³ See note in "Genealogist," new series, vol. v. No. 15.

⁵⁴ *Recte*, Sir Robert de Poer. (See note at page 3)

which record mentions like writs of the same tenor and date, with the necessary changes, directed to several lords, and among others to Nicholas Le Poer. An attested copy of an original record remaining in the Office of the Rolls aforesaid of a writ of summons, dated at Trym the 11th day of December in the 4th year of Richard the Second, directed to the archbishop of Dublin, by which the said archbishop was summoned to a parliament which was then appointed to be held at Dublin on the morrow of All Souls next ensuing, which record mentions that like writs of the same tenor and date, with the necessary changes, were directed to several lords, and among others to Nicholas Le Poer.

An attested copy of an original record remaining in the said Office of the Rolls aforesaid of a writ of summons, dated at Dublin the 29th of April in the 5th year of Richard the Second, directed to the archbishop of Dublin, by which the said archbishop was summoned to a parliament which was then appointed to be held at Dublin aforesaid on the Monday after fifteen days of the Holy Trinity next ensuing, which record also mentions like writs of the same tenor and date, with the necessary changes, directed to several lords, and among others to Nicholas Le Poer.

There being no journals of parliament existing in this kingdom so early as the aforesaid times, no positive evidence to prove that the said Nicholas Le Poer sat in parliament, in pursuance of the said writs of summons, could be given; but we humbly apprehend that the said several records in the reigns of King Edward the Third and his successor, having classed the Barony of Le Poer with other baronies and titles of honour, which are at this day in being, and which have continued in the same families from the aforesaid times to the present, and other evidence hereinafter stated, induce a presumption that the said Nicholas Le Poer sat and voted in parliament in the 48th of Edward the Third, in pursuance of the said writ of summons, and thereby became seized in fee of the said barony, no barony by letters patent having been created earlier than the 11th of Richard the Second.

No evidence has been laid before us to show the regular succession in the family of the petitioner from the time of Richard the Second to the reign of King Henry the Eighth, but there was produced to us an attested copy of an original record in the said Rolls Office, of a grant made by King Henry the Eighth in the 37th year of his reign, which recites a former grant made in the 33rd year of his reign to Peter Power, of Curraghmore, late Lord Power, which was produced as evidence that the said Barony of Power, or Le Poer, descended to and was subsisting in the said Peter in the 33rd year of Henry the Eighth, which we conceive to be evidence of the said fact, as no other evidence appeared to us of any other title the said Peter could have had to the honour of Lord Power, save as aforesaid; and as it appears to us from the evidence hereinafter stated that the said Peter was the descendant and heir of the said Nicholas Lord Poer.⁶⁰

In order to prove a regular succession from the time of Queen Elizabeth to the 25th year of King Charles the Second, when Richard Lord Poer was created Earl of Tyrone, the following evidence was laid before us in support of the second proposition, which we have likewise annexed to this our report.

An attested copy of an extract from a parliament roll in the Office of the Rolls, containing the names of the lords spiritual and temporal and commons in a parliament held by Thomas, Earl of Sussex, at the City of Dublin, in the 2nd year of Queen Elizabeth, in which roll is mentioned, among the temporal lords, John Poer, Lord of Curraghmore.

Likewise an extract from another parliament roll in the said office, containing the names of the lords spiritual and temporal, and such as were summoned to the parliament, holden before Sir John Perrot, in the 27th year of Queen Elizabeth, in which, among the temporal lords, we find the Lord of Curraghmore.

There was also laid before us an attested copy of an original record in the aforesaid Office of the Rolls, bearing date at Greenwich the last day of May, 1588, in the 30th year of Queen Elizabeth, whereby her Majesty grants a fee-farm of the value of £50 English by the year to Richard Poer, son and heir to the Lord Poer of the realm of Ireland, in consideration of his own and his ancestors' good services, particularly in regard of his grandfather having been slain in that realm in service against rebels; of his uncle having been slain at Bullen (Boulogne) in the service of King Henry the Eighth; and of the wounds received by his father and himself in the kingdom of Ireland, in her service.

To prove that the said Richard was afterwards Lord Poer, an attested copy of the inrollment of letters patent was laid before us, bearing date the 5th day of December, in the 3rd year of the reign of King James the First, by which his Majesty grants certain furs to John Poer, Esq., the grandson and heir apparent of Richard, Lord Poer, Baron of Curraghmore.

Also an attested copy of an original record remaining in the Rolls Office, containing a commission bearing date the 20th day of August in the 5th year of the reign of King James the First, directed to several persons therein named to take an inquisition at what place, day, and year Richard, Lord Poer, late Baron of Curraghmore, died; and of what seized, and who is his next and lawful heir; and of what age at the time of his death, and whether married or not, to which said commission is annexed the inquisition taken in pursuance thereof on the 2nd day of September, 1607, in the 5th year also of the said king, viz., the following month, by which inquisition it appears that Richard Power, Lord Power and Baron of Curraghmore, died at Curraghmore on the 7th day of August, 1607, seized of the manor of Curraghmore and several other lands, held in

and as such had title to the honour of Lord Power. He was certainly a descendant of Nicholas Poer, Baron of Donoyale, in the female line—but was not his heir—as the line of Donoyale was in full vigour, and was, at the time Peter or Piers Power was Lord Power and Curraghmore, represented by Nicholas Power, Baron of Donoyale, who, of course, was the heir of the Nicholas summoned by writ to Parliament.

⁶⁰ This Peter or Piers here referred to, was the eldest son and heir of Richard, 1st Lord de la Power and Curraghmore,

capité of the king; and that John Power, then Lord Power and Baron of Curraghmore, was the next and lawful heir of the late Lord Richard, and was eight and a-half years old at the death of the said Lord Richard, and that the use of the said lands descended to the said John Power, then Lord Power and Baron of Curraghmore aforesaid, as next heir of the said Lord Richard, viz., as son and heir of John Poer, deceased, who was son and heir of Lord Richard, and who died in the lifetime of his said father.

This evidence having deduced the succession from Richard to John, his grandson, and vested the estate of Curraghmore and Barony of Poer in the said John, an infant.

The next evidence laid before us was an attested copy from the journals of the House of Lords, of the names of the lords spiritual and temporal at the parliament holden at Dublin the 14th day of July, 1634, delivered in by the king-of-arms, among whom is the Lord of Curraghmore.

Also attested copies of the following extracts from the journals of the House of Lords.

A motion made at the bar the 2nd day of August, 1634, by Mr. Attorney, that the absent lords who had not sent proxy, or made fit excuse, might be amerced, and among these lords John Lord Power, of Curraghmore, is mentioned.

Information given to the House by Lord Barrymore, the 4th of November, 1634, that Lord Power is sick.

A catalogue of the nobility of Ireland, as they ought to sit the first day of parliament held at Dublin the 16th day of March, 1633, in which John, Lord Baron of Curraghmore, stands the eighth, and takes place the third after the Lord Howth, which we conceive to be evidence that the peerage which the said John, Lord Baron of Curraghmore, was then intitled to, was very ancient; and it appearing to us by the evidence hereafter stated, that the said John, Lord Baron of Curraghmore, was the heir of the said Nicholas, Lord Le Poer, and it not appearing to us that the said John, Lord Baron of Curraghmore, could have had any other title to the said peerage than as heir to the said Nicholas Le Poer, we conceive that the aforesaid several matters sufficiently prove that the said John, Baron of Curraghmore, held the said barony by that title, and as the heir of the said Nicholas, Lord Le Poer.⁶¹

An entry in the journals of the 5th of March, 1665, of Lord Power being added to the Committee of Privilege and Grievances.

An entry in the journals of the House of Lords of the 20th of March, 1665, of several bills being referred to a committee, of which Lord Power is one.

In order to prove that the said John was succeeded by Richard, his son and heir, the following

evidence which we have likewise annexed to this our report, was laid before us:—First, an attested copy from the Office of the Rolls of an original grant of King Charles, bearing date the 24th day of July in the 20th year of his reign, of fairs to Richard, Lord Le Poer, and his heirs. Secondly, an attested copy from the office aforesaid of letters patent, granted by King Charles the Second on the 20th day of May, in the 23rd year of his reign to Richard, Lord Le Poer, which letters patent recite that the father of the said Richard, under whom he claimed, was proved before the commissioners of the Court of Claims to be Janatic before the beginning of the late rebellion, and adjudged an innocent person. That the commissioners of the said Court of Claims did adjudge the several lands in the said letters patent mentioned to Arthur, Earl of Anglesey, as guardian to the said John Le Poer, and to the heirs and assigns of the said John Le Poer. His Majesty by the said letters patent in consideration of the merits of the said Richard, Lord Le Poer and Curraghmore, and to encourage the loyalty of others, does release to him all quit rent.

The said letters patent also mention that the ancestors of the said Richard Lord Le Poer, from their first planting in Ireland for above 400 years, had entirely preserved their faith and loyalty to the Crown of England, which carries the fame and antiquity of the family to the 56th year of the reign of Henry the Third, in 1270.⁶²

The next evidence was an attested copy of letters patent of King Charles the Second, bearing date the 9th day of October in the 25th year of the said king, creating Richard, Lord Baron De La Poer and Curraghmore, Viscount Decies and Earl of Tyrone, to hold the said dignity to him and his heirs male.

And the next evidence was a certificate from the Deputy Clerk and Keeper of the Rolls, that he had made diligent search in the Office of the Rolls of his Majesty's High Court of Chancery in Ireland, and could not find any enrolment of letters patent granting to any person of the name of Poer, or Le Poer, any title or dignity of a peer of this realm, from the earliest records remaining in the said office until the 25th of King Charles the Second, at which time the above-mentioned patent was granted to Richard, Lord Le Poer, of the dignities of Viscount Decies and Earl of Tyrone.⁶³

To prove the third proposition that the petitioner is heir general and sole heir of Richard, Lord Baron De La Poer, so created Earl of Tyrone, the following evidence was produced, which we have likewise annexed to this our report:—

The affidavits of James Duckett, in the County of Waterford, Esq., aged 68; of William Power, of the said County, aged 57; and James FitzGerald,

61 At the date of the said settlement mentioned above, viz. 16th March, 1633, the next legal descendant in the male line of Nicholas Le Poer was summoned to parliament by writ, was John Power, Esq., of Donoyale and Lord of Kilmedan, who inherited his lands and estates by undoubted descent from said Nicholas. He could not, therefore, have had two heirs male at the death of his father, Richard, Lord Baron of Curraghmore, held the said barony by writ as heir male of the body of Richard, 1st Lord Le Poer, on the 15th Sept. 1675, and had no claim whatever to the barony by writ (see Patent), which was the inheritance of the Donoyale House.

62 The fame and antiquity of the family in Ireland dates to a more remote period than 1270, namely, nearly 100 years before, A.D. 1172.

63 The statement here made, on apparently sound authority, is sufficiently disproved by the copy of the Patent creating the title of Lord Le Poer and Curraghmore on the said Richard Power, in 1654; and by the letter written by Lord Le Poer to Audley to Thomas Cromwell, and by the acknowledgment of the receipt of the Patents.—(See State Papers, Hen. 8, part 3, 1, 2, p. 415, and vol. 2, No. 65.)

of the said County, aged 54, whose testimony founded on general reputation and their own belief is—

That Richard, Earl of Tyrone, died leaving two sons, John and James.

That John, his eldest son and heir, succeeded to his estates and honours, and died without issue. That on his death, the estates and honours descended to James, his brother.

That James died in the year 1704, leaving the petitioner his only child and heir.

That Richard, the first Earl of Tyrone, was the heir general of the old Lords De Le Poer, Barons De Le Poer, sometimes called Lords or Barons De Le Poer and Curraghmore.

That the petitioner is the lineal descendant and heir of Richard, Earl of Tyrone, and of the old Lords or Barons De Le Poer.

That Curraghmore is, and for some hundreds of years hath been, the mansion seat of the family. And that one of the witnesses hath known the petitioner from her infancy, another 36 years, and the third, 26 years.

During the course of the evidence laid before us, having observed to the petitioner's counsel that one Henry Power had pretended a claim to the title of Lord Power,

The following evidence to invalidate that claim was laid before us, an affidavit of the aforesaid James Duckett and William Power whose testimony grounded on general reputation is—

That Richard, Lord Power, who lived in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, had two sons—(1) John, his elder, who died in the lifetime of his father, leaving a son and heir called John; and (2) Pierce, his younger son.

That John, the grandson, was father of Richard, Earl of Tyrone, and that upon failure of issue male of Earl Richard by the death of Earl James his son, the descendants of Pierce Power (of whom the said Henry was one) were called Lords Power for no other reason than as being upon the death of Earl James the heirs male of Richard Lord Power⁶⁴ who lived in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The death of Lady Beresford (*née* Power) took place in 1769, six years after her husband's demise. She also was interred in Clonagam, in the Curraghmore demesne; and with her ended the senior line of Power of Coroghmore springing from Matthew de Poer, grandson of Sir Robert de Poher, A.D. 1177.

PART IV.

As shown in foot-note on a previous page, Sir John Power, Knight, 3rd Lord Baron Power and Coroghmore, entailed his estates upon the heirs male of his body; failing such,

upon the heirs male of the body of his father; and, failing such, upon the heirs male of the body of his grandfather (Post Mortem Inquisitions).⁶⁵ He died 8th Nov., 1592, leaving, by his wife, the Lady Elenour FitzGerald of Desmond—with a younger son, the Hon. Piers Power, of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell, Esq. (of whom I shall treat presently)—an elder son and heir, Richard Power, the 4th Lord, who died 8th Aug., 1607, leaving, by his wife, the Hon. Katherine de Barry (with an elder son and heir John, father of the 5th Lord Power), a 2nd son, the Hon. Piers Power, of Monolargie and Graigrush, Esq. This gentleman married the Lady Katherine Butler, 4th daughter of Walter, 11th Earl of Ormond, by whom he had a son and heir, Piers Power, of Monolargie, Esq., who was attainted on account of the Rebellion in 1641. He had issue a son and a daughter; the latter, Elenour Power, married Edmund Power, of Gurteen, eldest son of Piers Power, of Rathgormyke, Esq. (of whom hereafter). The son John Power, of Monolargie, Esq., was a colonel in the service of James II., was Mayor of Limerick during the Siege; he was attainted in 1688. In 1704, on the death of James Power, 8th Lord de le Power and Coroghmore, and 3rd Earl of Tyrone, Colonel John Power, of Monolargie, became the heir male of the body of Richard, the first Lord, being the great-grandson of the 4th Lord, through his 2nd son, as shown above. Owing to his attainder, however, he could not take his seat in the House of Peers. He died in Paris, where he is supposed to have been murdered by his servant, when in about the 80th year of his age, on the 20th August, 1725. He was commonly called "Lord Power." He married, and had an only son,

Henry Power, 10th Lord Power and Coroghmore (*de jure*). He petitioned for the Curraghmore estates, as heir male of the body of the 3rd Lord, upon which petition the Lords Stanhope and Farrington made a favourable report to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The petition, however, was de-

⁶⁴ He was the 8th Lord, and grandson of the 1st Lord de Power and Curraghmore.

⁶⁵ In the Post Mortem Inquisition, taken 26th January, 37 Elizabeth, on John, 3rd Lord Power and Coroghmore, a deed of entail is quoted, by which the 3rd Lord entailed all his estates on the heir male of the Curraghmore line.

nounced as "bold and dangerous," and a counter petition was made by Lady Catherine Power and her husband, Sir Marcus Beresford, calling to mind the attainer against the claimant's father, Colonel John Power, and his grandfather, Piers Power, of Monolargie; also setting forth that such claims might prove dangerous to the Protestants of the country, who held their estates under the Act of Settlement. The result of this opposition was, that Henry's petition never came to a hearing. He died, unmarried, in Dublin, in May, 1742, and is buried in St. Matthew's Church, Irishtown, Dublin. Administration was granted to his sisters, Charlotte and Clare, 5th December, 1743. With him the line of Monolargie, originating in Piers Power, 2nd son of the 4th Lord, became extinct,⁶⁶ and the Barony of le Power and Coroghmore devolved upon a descendant of Piers Power of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell, 2nd son of the 2nd Lord, and therefore uncle of Piers Power, of Monolargie, who, in 1742, at the death of Henry, 10th Lord, was John Power, of Gurteen, *de jure* 11th Lord, as heir male of the body of Richard, the first Lord, who consequently was entitled, as well as his heirs male for ever, "to have and to hold the estate, degree, title, name, and dignity of Barone de le Power and Coroghmore." "Habendum et tenendum eadem statum, gradum, titulum, nomen, et dignitatem prefato Ricardo et Heredibus Masculis de Corpore suo Exeuntibus in perpetuum."

Before I proceed to show the descendants of Piers Power, who established the House of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell, out of which the Gurteen House arose, and to trace the heir male of the body of the first Lord to the Gurteen family, a perusal of the petitions of Henry Power, and of Sir Marcus Beresford and his wife, the Lady Catherine, will interest those who have thus far followed the fortunes of this remarkable and honoured family. They are here given in full, and are worthy of a careful study.

⁶⁶ Henry Power, 10th Lord *de jure*, died unmarried, in May, 1742, when the sole male descendants of Richard, 4th Lord Power, died without issue, and the representation of the 1st Lord Power devolved upon the heir male of Pierce Power, of Rathgormyke, the 11th Lord. "(See Sir E. Burke's "Landed Gentry" for 1886.)

An Humble Address to the King by the Irish House of Commons, 1717.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The Humble Petition of Henry Power, Esq., sole son of John Power, commonly called Lord Power.

Shewith,

That your petitioner's father having forfeited for life his right and title to the estate of the late Earl of Tyrone,⁶⁷ by an act of Parliament that no Papist should inherit a Protestant's estate.

That your petitioner, then a minor in France, came over pursuant to an order from the late queen, who was graciously pleased to get him naturalised, and gave him a pension upon the Irish establishment, to enable him to be bred up a Protestant, thereby to be qualified to inherit the said estate and honours of the late Earl of Tyrone, as next heir male.

That your petitioner having and still resolving to remain true both to the Protestant religion and the succession of the illustrious House of Hanover.

Therefore your petitioner humbly begs your Majesty to give the necessary direction to your chancellor and attorney of your Kingdom of Ireland, to inspect in the said your petitioner's right and title to the aforesaid estates of the late Earl of Tyrone, that upon obtaining a favourable report he may [when of age] enter in possession of his said right and title, having recourse to your Majesty as the fountain of all honour and justice.

And your petitioner shall ever pray.

Our Very Good Lord,

We having received from the king a petition of Henry Power, Esquire, son of John Power, commonly called "Lord Power," concerning the estates which belonged to the late Earl of Tyrone, we herewith by his Majesty's command transmit to you the said petition, recommending him to your grace that he may have countenance and protection of the government in Ireland as far as conveniently may be, and that you will cause his right and title to the said estates to be examined into, and thereupon report to us your opinion what you think fit for his Majesty to do therein.

We remain, our very good Lord,

Your Grace's most humble servants,

STANHOPE, TORRINGTON, GEO. BAILLIE.

25th September, 1717.

To his Grace the Duke of Bolton,
Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

To the Rt. Honble. the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses in Parliament assembled. The Humble Petition of Sir Marcus Beresford, Bart., and the Lady Catherine, his wife.

Shewith,

That the Right Honble. James, late Earl of Tyrone, deceased, father of the petitioner Catherine, being seized in fee of a considerable estate in this kingdom, made his last will and testament, and thereby devised the same to the petitioner, Catherine,

⁶⁷ See Claims—the Peerages, Tyrone; Public Record Office, Four Courts, Dublin.

his only child, after the death of the Rt. Honble. the Lady Tyrone, your petitioner's mother. That notwithstanding such disposition, Henry Power, Esq., son of John Power, commonly called Lord Power, who was indicted and outlawed on account of the late rebellion in the kingdom, under pretence of being the next heir male to the said Earle, has lately petitioned his Majesty therein setting forth that his said father had forfeited for life his right and title to the estate of the late Earle of Tyrone, by an act of Parliament passed in this kingdom that no Papist should inherit a Protestant's estate. That he was brought out of France, pursuant to an order from her late Majesty, and was naturalized, and obtained a pension upon the establishment of this kingdom, to enable him to be bred a Protestant, thereby to be qualified to inherit the estate and honours of the late Earle of Tyrone, and prayed his Majesty to give necessary directions for inspecting his right and title to the said estate of the late Earle of Tyrone, that when he came of age he might enter into possession of his said right and title, having recourse to his Majesty as the fountain of all honour and justice, but in his said petition took no notice of the attainder of his said father on account of the late Rebellion in 1688, or of the attainder of his grandfather on account of the Rebellion in 1641. That the said Henry Power thereupon obtained a reference to his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, whereby he was required to cause the said Henry's right and title to the said estate to be inquired into, who, in pursuance thereof, has referred the same to his Majesty's attorney and solicitor-general of this kingdom, to report the facts to His Grace.

That your petitioner apprehends the design of the said Henry Power in obtaining such order of reference can be no other than the hopes he may conceive of obtaining his Majesty's gracious favour and allowance, to apply to this honourable house for heads of a bill to reverse his father's and grandfather's attainders, whereby others, under the same circumstances, may be encouraged to make the like attempts, which, as your petitioner conceives, would very much tend to weaken the titles of the Protestants of this kingdom, who hold their estates under the Acts of Settlement and Explanation, and the sales of the late trustees, and prove of dangerous consequences to the Protestant interests thereof in general.

May it therefore please your honours to take the premises into your consideration, and to do therein as in your great wisdom you shall think proper, and your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

MARCUS BERESFORD.

The foregoing petition was presented to the House by Mr. Dopping, 5th December, 1717, read, and referred to a select committee, who made the following report:—

Mr. Speaker,

Your committee appointed to take into consideration the petition of Sir Marcus Beresford and the Lady Catherine, his wife, have taken that matter into consideration, and come to a resolution same,

which is as follows:—"Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee that the petitioners have proved the allegations of their petition to the satisfaction of this committee."

The committee was composed of the following:—

Mr. Dopping.	Lieut.-General Hamilton.
Mr. Maynard.	General Gorges.
Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer.	Mr. Joseph Allen.
Mr. Rosse.	Mr. Humphrey Mav.
Sir William Parsons.	Mr. St. John Broderick.
Mr. Butler.	Mr. Maxwell.
Mr. Solicitor-General.	Colonel Southwell.
Mr. Parvy.	Mr. Secretary Webster.
Colouel Sandford.	Mr. Buseard.
Mr. Ag. Vesey.	Mr. Ward.
Mr. Oliver St. George.	Mr. Attorney-General.

*To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
The Humble Address of the Knights, Citizens, and
Burgesses in Parliament Assembled.*

We your Majesty's most dutifull and loyal subjects, the Commons of Ireland in Parliament assembled, being deeply sensible of your Majesty's care of the welfare of your faithfull subjects of this your kingdom, and of the security they enjoy, in all their sacred and civil rights under your gracious protection, do with great humility approach your royal throne to represent to your Majesty the fatal consequences which will inevitably follow from the reversal of any of the outlawrys of the rebellious Irish Papists.

We beg leave to lay before your Majesty that the greatest part of the titles which your British and Protestant subjects of Ireland have to their estates, are derived under the attainders for the Rebellions in 1641 and 1688. And, as the Irish by the forfeiture of their estates became lesse able to put in execution their treasonable designs, so by corrupting the blood of their nobility, and depriving them and their posterity of their hereditary titles and honours, by force of the outlawrys for high treason, they have had lesser power and credit with their followers to lead them into rebellion.

And this was so well understood, that no outlawry of any person guilty of the Rebellion of 1641 was reversed until the time of the government of the late Earl of Tyrconnell [Richard Talbot], about the year 1687, when the design to extirpate the British and Protestant interests, and to establish Popery as the national religion, was openly and avowedly declared.

We do with the greatest gratitude acknowledge that since your Majesty's auspicious reign no outlawry for either of the Rebellions of 1641 or 1688 has been reversed, but a very bold and dangerous attempt having been lately made by Henry Power, son of John Power, commonly called "Lord Power," as we conceive towards the reversal of his ancestors, indictments and outlawrys for both rebellions, we cannot on this occasion but in duty to your Majesty and our country, humbly and with the

greatest submission represent that it will be of the most fatal consequences to your faithfull subjects of this kingdom, if any such application should succeed, or even meet with the least encouragement, and we rely on your Majesty's wisdom, justice, and goodness, that no favour so dangerous to your crown, and so destructive to your good subjects, will ever be obtained from your royall clemency.

We beseech your Majesty to be assured that it is our zeal for the safety of your government, the peace and security of this your kingdom, and the faithfull discharge of the trust reposed in us by those we represent, which have obliged us thus earnestly to implore your royall protection, grace, and favour, on which your faithfull Commons will entirely depend.

Endorsed.—Address to the king, against reversing outlawrys. Reported by Mr. Dopping, 7th December, 1717, and agreed to by the house with some amendments.⁶⁵

Henry Power, 10th Lord Power and Curraghmore (*de jure*), had equitable and just claims to the estates and honours of James, 3rd Earl of Tyrone, and, having been bred up a Protestant, was not subject to the penal act of Parliament, that "no Papist should inherit a Protestant's estate." The Deed of Entail of John, the 3rd Lord, was never broken, and Henry Power, the claimant, was the great-great-grandson of that Lord, and moreover was the heir male of the body of the first Lord, and also of the 3rd Lord. His father was recognised as Lord Power, after the death of James, 3rd Earl of Tyrone,⁶⁶ by those who, though unfortunate in the cause which they had espoused, were yet men of noble blood, descent, and renown, and distinguished for their military attainments, their probity and honour.

The petition, however, of Henry Power created so much alarm among the representatives of the Grantees under the Act of Settlement, that an overwhelming opposition was made to it, and it never came to a fair and impartial hearing.

Henry Power, *de jure* 10th Lord Power,⁶⁷ "died intestate and unmarried, May, 1742, and was buried at St. Mathew's Church, Irishtown (Ringsend), Dublin. Administration was granted to his sisters, 5th Dec., 1743. Upon his death, the whole male

descendants of Richard, 4th Lord Power, became extinct, and the representation of the 1st Lord Power devolved on the heir male of Pierce Power, of Rathgormack, the brother of the 4th Lord"⁷⁰ (to whom I referred at the beginning of Part IV.), viz., John Power, of Gurteen, in the Co. Waterford, and of Grange, in the Co. of Galway, who then became 11th Lord *de jure*.

To make this statement clear, it will be necessary to trace the descendants of Piers Power, of Rathgormyk and Clondonnell, Esq., the second son of Sir John Power, the 3rd Lord, and younger brother of Richard, the 4th Lord, to whom I have already referred more than once. He died on the 25th May, 1597, leaving, according to the Post Mortem Inquisition, a son and heir, Richard Power, of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell, Esq., whose death occurred at Rathgormyke, in February, 1635. He was buried at Mothel, leaving by his wife Elenor, daughter of William Butler, of Ballyboe, five sons and a daughter, viz., (1) John Power, of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell, Esq., who married Elenour, daughter of Donald McGrath, of Mountain Castle, Esq., but died without male issue in 1682; (2) Piers Power, the second son, of whom presently; (3) James Power, a captain in the Spanish service; (4) William; (5) Edmond; and Honora, wife of Edmond Power, of Curraghkiely, of the Kilballykiltie line.

Piers Power, Esq., the second son, married Margaret, daughter of Nicholas Lee, Esq., and widow of Henry Power, of Adamstown, County Waterford (whose third husband was Richard Strange, of Waterford, Esq.), by whom he had ~~two~~ ^{three} sons, viz., (1) Edmond Power, of Gurteen, whose descendants I shall presently show; (2) John Power, of Gurteen, afterwards a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army of Lewis XIV., and wounded at Argenteau; (3) Richard Power, of Ballindrimmy, County of Galway, a Captain in the Royal Service. He was "Transplanted," with others of the name. He married Helen, daughter of Captain David Power, of Kilbolane, and dying in 1705, left a daughter

⁶⁵ James Power, 8th Lord Power and Curraghmore and Corchillmore, 3rd Earl of Tyrone, died in 1704, father of Lady Catherine Power, who married Sir Marcus Beresford.

⁶⁷ See "Inquisition Post Mortem."

⁷⁰ Vide Sir Bernard Burke's "Landed Gentry," vol. 2, p. 1536.

Mary, wife of her cousin John Power, of Gurteen; (4) Piers, transplanted with his brother Edmond Power, of Gurteen, Esq., married Eleonore, sister of Colonel John Power, of Monolargie, *de jure* 9th Lord Power and Curraghmore, and had several sons, of whom John Power, of Gurteen, was the eldest surviving. After the death of Henry, 10th Lord, in 1742, he became *de jure* 11th Lord. He served in the French Army under his uncle Colonel John, *de jure* 9th Lord. He was commonly called Sir John Power. He is mentioned in Dalton's King James' Army List, as John Power, Lieut. Colonel of the 33rd Regiment of Foot, with Sir Michael Creagh, Colonel, and Theobald Bourke, Major. ~~He joined the Irish Brigade in France, and, according to the De Luxe Ponce MSS., was Lieut. Colonel of the Regiment of Dublin in 1692, and Colonel in 1695-1701.~~ He married Mary, youngest daughter and co-heiress of Richard Power, of Ballindrimmy. The marriage took place in December, 1703; she died in August, 1726, predeceasing her husband, who died at Grange in the County of Galway, in 1743, leaving only three daughters, viz., (1) Elizabeth, the youngest daughter and co-heir, who married on the 13th April, 1739, her first cousin, Edmond, of Gurteen, *de jure* 13th Lord, and died 1752; (2) Hellen, wife of Hyacinth Cheevers, of Nygane, Lord Mount Leinster; and (3) Catherine, who married in 1733, John Power, of Clashmore. At the death in 1743 of John Power, the 11th Lord *de jure*, his brother William Power, of Gurteen, succeeded as 12th Lord, but died in August, 1755, *s.p.*, and was succeeded by his nephew Edmond, son of his brother James Power, of Curraghkiely, by Mary, daughter of William Higgins, of Gortardagh.

Edmond Power, of Gurteen, *de jure* 14th Lord le Power and Curraghmore, as heir to his uncle William, the 12th Lord, married his cousin Elizabeth, youngest daughter and co-heir of John Power, the 11th Lord, as already shown, and had two sons, (1) William Power, of Gurteen, *de jure* 15th Lord, who was born in 1750 and died at Ballydine in 1813, leaving no issue by his wife Mary, daughter and heiress of Captain Walter de

la Mar, of Porterstown; (2) John Power, of Gurteen, Esq., second son of Edmond the 13th Lord, married, in 1773, Johanna, eldest daughter of Thaddeus O'Mcagher, of Drangan, representative of the Princes of Ikerrin. She died 3rd January, 1801, and was buried at Rathgormuck. The issue of this marriage were three sons and a daughter, (1) Edmond, the eldest, of whom presently; (2) James; (3) William; and Honora, wife of William Talbot, of Castle Talbot, County Wexford, Esq.

Edmond Power, of Gurteen, Esq., succeeded his uncle William, as 15th Lord, born 1775. He died on the 29th May, 1830, and was buried at Mothel, leaving with other issue, an elder son and heir John Power, of Gurteen, Esq., J.P., D.L., and M.P. for County of Waterford, *de jure* 16th Lord, whose eldest son and heir is Edmond de Poher de la Poer, J.P., D.L. for the County of Waterford; M.P. for that county from 1866 to 1873, and High Sheriff, 1879-80. He was created a Count of the Roman States in August, 1864, with remainder to the male issue of his body for ever, and is a Knight of St. John of Jerusalem (Malta), and, who, as heir male of the body of the 1st Lord, claims to be Lord Power and Baron of Curraghmore. He married in June, 1881, the Hon. Mary Monsell, daughter of William, Lord Emly, of Turvoe, and has issue three sons and two daughters.⁷¹

I have now traced the male descendants of the 1st Lord Baron de le Power and Coroghmore, through the different lines in order of seniority, and shown sufficiently clearly the extinct branches, and the transmission of the heirship to the succeeding line, until it became vested *de jure* in the Gurteen House.⁷²

⁷¹ *Vide* Sir Bernard Burke's "Landed Gentry," vol. 2, for 1886.

⁷² In the account, at page 151, of the descendants of Piers Power, of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell, Esq., a few errors crept in, which it was out of my power to correct in time for press. The descent will, however, be quite apparent from the following note. John Power, of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell, Esq., eldest son of Richard Power and Eleonore Burge, of Ballyhoe, is erroneously stated by LeLice to have had no issue. He had two sons and a daughter by his wife Eleonore McGrath, viz., (1) Piers Power, of Knockstall, whose estates were confiscated, and he himself "transplanted" into Connaught, where he was given the lands of O'Connell's country, and died without children; (2) Richard Power, of Ballyhoe, County Galway, Esq., heir to his brother Piers, with whom, however, he was "transplanted." He had been a captain in

Reverting for a moment to Richard, the 6th Lord, who died a Jacobite prisoner in the Tower of London, 1690, [and whose father would undoubtedly have been attainted and transplanted on account of the rebellion of 1641, but for his being afflicted by God], it is worthy of note that he was a colonel of foot in the service of King James II., and yet was not attainted, as was his 2nd cousin, John Power, of Monologarie, commonly called "Lord Power," also a colonel in James's army. The 6th Lord's two sons, John and James, succeeded to the title and estates, in spite of their father's Jacobitism, which in the case of the petition of Henry, *de jure* 10th Lord Power, was shown to be the cause of the attainer of his father, Colonel John Power. Why was not the 6th Lord attainted also, joining in arms, as he did, with James II., for which so many others lost their hereditary rights?

The fact that the attainders against Piers Power, of Monologarie, Esq., in 1641 and

against his son, Colonel John Power, for the part he took in 1687, were alleged as arguments against the petition of Henry Power, Esq., in 1717, proves undoubtedly that his claim was founded on right and justice, for the question then arises—Were those attainders legal, and was it just that he should suffer for the actions of his father and grandfather, he himself having taken no part in the Civil Wars of 1641 and 1688? In reference to these disturbed periods in the history of a land seldom free from strife and contentions of parties and classes, the following passage will be sufficient to show how high the feeling of loyalty ran on both sides in the days of the Jacobite and Williamite campaigners, and if "La Fortune de la Guerre" favoured the latter, it was contrary to the principles of fair play to brand their brave foes as outlaws and rebels for upholding the cause they loved and considered just:—

"While England and Scotland considered themselves justified in preferring William as their Sovereign to James, in Ireland the great mass of the population, or those of Anglo-Norman or Old English, and those of Milesian descent, thought that they were at least as well entitled to retain James for their sovereign as the English and Scotch had been to reject him. On strictly constitutional grounds, or viewing the Monarchy in the three kingdoms, not as elective but hereditary, the Irish, in adhering to James, regarded themselves as loyalists, and looked upon the English and Scotch, for deposing him, as rebels. If by a recognised axiom of British Law, "the King can do no wrong, anything deemed so being chargeable upon his ministers as evil counsellors, and to be visited with punishment not of him, but of them, in order to deter others from acting similarly, ought not such a course of ministerial impeachment and chastisement have been adopted with respect to whatever had been objectionable in the Government of James, instead of expelling him from the throne, to say nothing of his son the Prince of Wales, who, as an infant, had unquestionably done no wrong?" Putting out of the question *in toto* the con-

the Royal Service. In the text he is made the third son of Piers Power and Margaret Lee, instead of the second son of John of Rathgormyke. He died in 1703, leaving by his wife Helen, daughter of Captain David Power, of Kibbolane, two daughters only, namely, (1) Bridget, wife of Francis MacNamara, of Cratloe, County Clare; and (2) Mary, who married her cousin John Power, *de jure* 11th Lord Power, as shown in the text at page 151. The daughter of John Power, of Rathgormyke, and Elenor McGrath, was Anne, wife of ——— Loncan, Esq., of Ballynacourty. This John Power, of Rathgormyke, was dead in 1641, for in this year Piers Power Fitz John, of Rathgormyke, or Rathormack, was then proprietor of that place, and of Knockalafan, and of other lands which had belonged to his father (see Book of Distribution and Survey, County Waterford, 1st February, 1634), so that the date of his death given in the text is wrong.

Piers Power, Esq., the second son of Richard Power, and Elenor Butler, of Ballybeg, had only two sons and one daughter by his wife Margaret Lee, not four sons as stated. His sons were: (1) John, 5th, of Gurteen, the elder son, whose descendants are correctly recorded at page 151; (2) John Power, Lieut.-Colonel in the French army, wounded at Argentan; and the daughter was Catherine, wife of Garret Gough, grandson of Sir Thomas Gough, Knight, of Edmanagh, Co. Waterford.

By comparing the text and this note, it will be apparent that the only alteration necessary in the descent is to give two sons, Piers and Richard, to John Power of Rathgormyke, instead of accepting Lodge's statement that he died issueless; and two, Edmond and John, to Piers Power, who is stated in the text to have been the father of four sons—Edmond, John, Richard, and Piers.

Regarding the statement that John Power, of Gurteen and Grange (commonly called Sir John Power, *de jure* 11th Lord), was a Lieutenant-Colonel and afterwards a Colonel in the French service, and was killed by confounding him with his nephew, his father, Colonel John Power, of Gurteen, became a Lieutenant-Colonel in the French service and is the officer referred to in D'Alton's Army List as Lieut.-Col. of the 33rd Regiment of Foot, &c. His paternal uncle, John Power, of the Monologarie line, the 10th Lord *de jure*, was a Colonel in James II.'s service, and is recorded in the De La Power MSS. as Lieut.-Colonel of the Regiment of Dublin 1692, and Colonel in 1698-1701.

fications and attainders under the Cromwellian rule, which being the acts of an acknowledged usurper were in themselves illegal and unjust, the attainders inflicted on the brave men who upheld the cause of James II. honourably and heroically were acts of tyranny inflicted on noble though defeated foes, and hereditary titles and birthrights could not in the eyes of justice become dead letters thereby. For this reason therefore, though the attainder on Colonel John Power, of Monologarie, deprived him for life of his right and title to the estate of the 8th Lord and 3rd Earl of Tyrone, it did not in the slightest degree affect the legality of the claim of his son Henry, who was *de jure* the heir male of the body of Richard, 1st Lord de la Poer and Coroghmore—an estate, degree, title, name, and dignity which was to be transmitted to the heir male of his body for ever, and which at his death passed, in 1742, to John Power of Garteen, the grandson of a man—Piers Power of Rathgormyke and Clondonnell—whose only political offence was resistance to Cromwell—a regicide and usurper of the rights of others.

A memoir of the Power family would by no means be complete or exhaustive, without a more detailed account of Lord Arnold de Poer, Baron of Kells, who, in spite of his influence and wealth, fell a victim to the superstitions of the age in which he lived. Before relating the story of his imprisonment, however, and the causes which led to it, perhaps it will be well to show his exact descent from Sir Robert de Poher, the first of the name in Ireland. At the beginning of this historical sketch, he is casually referred to, and his descent from Walter de Poher, Lord of Dunbratyn and Rathgormyke, and Feya D'Eincoart is given; but, according to some authorities, his direct ancestor was John, elder brother of Walter aforesaid. This Walter was certainly either a son or grandson of Sir Robert; and, as I shall proceed to point out, the probability is that he was a grandson, being the second son of Sir Roger, younger son of Sir Robert. Although Giraldus Cambrensis, in his very complimentary notice of Roger Poer, "the young and beardless, yet withal lusty, valiant, and

courageous gentleman," does not in any way show his connection with the Irish patriarch of the family, Sir Robert; nevertheless, two of our most trustworthily authorities on old family descents, viz., Lodge and Playfair, show him to have been a younger son of Sir Robert de Poher. O'Farrell, in his *Linea Antiqua*, ventures a supposition that he "was likely the brother or one of the sons" of Sir Robert, Lord of Waterford, 1177. Now, as Sir Robert, Lord of Waterford, was the founder of the Donoye and Kilmedan House, and Carew says "out of this house all the Powers of Ireland and the FitzEustaces descend," the conclusion necessarily to be drawn from O'Farrell and Carew, is that Sir Roger was a younger son of Sir Robert, Lord of Waterford, in ^{no way} can the four authorities quoted, Lodge, Playfair, O'Farrell, and Carew, be reconciled in their statements. Lord Arnold's descent is traced by Lodge and Playfair from Sir Roger through his elder son John, and not from Walter, of Dunbratyn, who was his second and younger son, and whose line became extinct in the person of Mathew Poer, heir to Eustace, Lord Poer, who was summoned to Parliament as Baron, A.D. 1295. As shown in the early part of the memoir, Bennet de Poer, son of Walter of Dunbratyn, was Lord of Grace Castle in right of his wife Margaret, daughter of William le Gras [Grace], and as Lord Arnold inherited Grace Castle, he must have been heir to Walter, son of Mathew, who succeeded to Eustace Lord Poer as already shown, and which Walter died issueless. This Walter was the great grandson of Bennet de Poer, and Margaret Grace, and with him the issue of Walter of Dunbratyn became extinct, and his lands, including Grace Castle must have passed to Lord Arnold. The early part of the Power pedigree requires some slight alteration to define clearly the Curraghmore line, and the following revision is correct, and tallies with the various authors quoted. Sir Robert, Lord of Waterford, had four sons, viz.:

(1) Sir John de Poher, Baron of Donoye, eldest son, who inheriting the great possessions of his father, established himself at Donoye, a castle on the seacoast, built there

by Sir Robert, in all probability, soon after the Conquest, to guard his newly-acquired grants.

(2) Sir Eustace de Poher, Benefactor to the Dominican Monastery of St. Saviour's, Dublin, who probably took the cowl and died without issue.

(3) Sir Roger, and (4) Bartholomew, who continued the English line. Sir Roger, the son, married a niece of Sir Amoricus de St. Laurence [ancestor of the noble House of Howth] and probably daughter de Tristram, and Cecilia his wife, and had two sons, John (of whom presently) and Walter, Lord of Dunbratyn and Rathgormyke, who is placed as a son, instead of a grandson, of Sir Robert in the early part of the memoir, and whose line, as already shown, became extinct in the person of Walter, his great-great-grandson. Besides these four sons, Sir Robert had a daughter Elenor, wife of Sir Alexander de Raymond, Knight of the Hall, Co. Wexford. In the Redmond Pedigree, she is called the daughter of Richard Poer, but as there was no Richard Poer at so early a date, it is probable Richard is a clerical mistake for Robert, and an error occurred in making her the daughter of Walter of Dunbratyn. John, the elder son of Sir Roger, was living in 1197, and from him the Curraghmore House derived its origin. It is probable that Sir Robert granted to his son Roger, Curraghmore and the manor thereof, and that either he or his son John built the castle of Curraghmore. The following is the pedigree, as given by Lodge. Robert, Lord of Waterford, had a son Roger, who had a son John, living 1197, whose son Mathew, was father of Eustace, who died 1311, who had a son Arnold, who died in 1323, leaving a son Robert, whose son Eustace was father of Mathew, direct ancestor of Richard Poer, Lord of Coroghmore, who died in 1483. Playfair agrees with Lodge in all the generations down to Robert the son of Arnold, whom he makes the father of Mathew, who had a son Richard, father of Nicholas, summoned as Baron in 1375, whose son he states was Richard, who died in 1483. Playfair is palpably wrong in this part of the descent, because, as already shown, the

House of Curraghmore derived only in the female line from Nicholas, the Baron in 1375, through the marriage of David Poer, grandfather of Richard, Lord of Coroghmore, who died in 1483 with Eleuour, his daughter. The correct pedigree therefore of the Curraghmore line, after thus sifting the authorities on the subject, is clearly defined thus. Sir Robert, Lord of Waterford, had a third son Sir Roger, whose eldest son John, living in 1197, was succeeded by his son Mathew. This Mathew had a son Sir Eustace, who about the year 1300, was granted the barony of Kells in Ossory. From a younger son of this Eustace, the Fitz-Eustaces originated. His eldest son and heir was Arnold, the Lord Arnold of whom so many entertaining records exist. He was Baron of Kells, and seneschal of Kilkenny, and it was he who took a prominent part against Edward Bruce, and not John de Poher, 5th Baron of Donoyle, as accidentally appears stated in this history in the account of that chieftain.⁷³ By his wife Agnes, an heiress who had dower A.D. 1337, he had two sons, the younger of whom Robert was Treasurer of Ireland in 1327, and the elder Eustace, his heir, succeeded as 3rd Baron of Kells. As already related in the early pages of the memoir, he was hanged as a traitor A.D. 1345, and his vast estates confiscated,⁷⁴ of which, however, those in the County Waterford were restored to his heir. The Barony of Kells was granted to Walter de Bermingham "because he took a great part with him (the king) against the Earl of Desmond, with the aforesaid Lord Ufford, which barony belonged some time to Eustace Poer, that was drawn and hanged at the Castle of the Island."⁷⁵ For a fuller account of him, the reader is referred to the back pages of the memoir. By his wife the Lady Mathilde de Bermingham, he had a son

73 Campion's History of Ireland, page 122. Dublin, 1809.

74 An Idea of the extent of the possessions of Sir Eustace, 3rd Baron of Kells, may be formed by enumerating the lands forfeited on this treasonable occasion, viz. the vast Waterford estates, the manors of Dunbryn and Grenagh in Kilkenny, the lord of the Earls of Ormond; the barony of Kells in Ossory; the manor of Ardee in Louth, held in right of his wife, the heiress of Bermingham, Earl of Louth; and the manor of Kilmelade near Athy. Downhill and the Louth estates were afterwards restored. (Patent Roll of Chancery, p. 217.)

75 See Book of Howth; Carew MSS.

Mathew, whose only son David Poer married Elenour the daughter of Nicholas Poer, Baron of Donoyale and Lord of Kylmydan, who sat as a Baron in Parliament in 1375, and three times afterwards. By this marriage there was a son Nicholas, whose son Richard Poer Lord of Coroghmore, was sheriff of Waterford, and died in 1483. From him the line has already been distinctly and clearly deduced down to the Lady Katherine Power of Curraghmore, wife of Sir Marcus Beresford, Bart., and to the different houses of Rathgormyke, Clonduffel, Monolargie, and Gurteen.

Having thus shown Lord Arnold's descent from Sir Roger, and that of the House of Curraghmore from him, the following startling and full account of his dispute with the Earl of Desmond, and of his trial for witchcraft and sorcery, will doubtless be a valuable adjunct to this sketch:—

"The story of the feud between the first Earl of Desmond and Sir Arnold is told by all our Annalists. The Knight had mortally insulted the great chief of the Western Geraldines by calling him 'a Rhymer,' in some public assembly. Although the later Earls of the house of Desmond were remarkable for their acquirements, and their patronage of learning, during very ignorant ages, and in an unlettered country (for instances the fourth Earl was styled 'the Poet,' and the eighth, besides being able to write his name, founded two colleges), yet the *soubriquet* of 'Rhymer,' so publicly given to the first Earl, enraged him, being the term the English were accustomed to apply so contemptuously to a Gaelic *flitedh* or bard. This story is borne out by printed records. Writs were issued on the 28th June, 1326, to Le Poer and Maurice FitzThomas (Desmond) commanding them to desist from congregating men-at-arms for the purpose of attacking each other. In the following year, Fitz-Thomas and John, Baron of Donhill, received permission to treat with the felons of their separate families, surnames, and followings; and the sheriff of the neighbouring counties, were ordered not to arrest the said felons. All these royal writs were, however, of no avail; for soon afterwards the defamed lord

assembled his forces, plundered and burnt the countries belonging to Le Poer, in Ossory, Kells, and Offa, so that the old Baron [presumably Sir Eustace, the first Baron of Kells] and his son Sir Arnold were forced to take refuge in the city of Waterford—and when the latter sailed to England, in order to complain to the king—his enemies took advantage of his absence by laying waste 'everything belonging to him.'⁷⁶ The quarrel probably originated in a more serious cause than the bestowal of a nickname, viz., in depredations committed by numerous and predatory 'Poerines' in Lord Desmond's Barony of Decies.⁷⁷ It was in the following year, 1328, that a still more formidable enemy arose to Sir Arnold in the person of the Bishop of Ossory, who brought a charge of heresy against him.⁷⁸

The following is a full and true account of the charge, the trial, and its results:—

It was late in the twelfth century when the Normans first landed in Ireland as conquerors, and before the end of the thirteenth that portion of the island known as "the Pale" was already covered with flourishing towns and cities. The County of Kilkenny, attractive by its beauty and by its various resources, was one of the districts first occupied by the invaders, and at the period of which we are speaking, its chief town, also called Kilkenny, was a fortified city, commanded by a strong castle,⁷⁹ and inhabited by wealthy merchants, amongst the most important of whom was William Utlagh, a rich banker and money lender.

William Utlagh married the Lady Alice Le Kyteler, by whom he had a son William, and died sometime before 1302. His widow, who appears always to have retained her maiden name, re-married with Adam Le Blond,⁸⁰ of Callen, who died before 1311, for in that year Lady Alice was the wife of Richard de Valle;⁸¹ and at the time of the following narrative (1324) she was the wife of Sir John de Poer, her fourth husband.

In the year of grace 1324, Richard de Ledrede, being Bishop of Ossory, and the Lord Arnold de Poer, Baron of Kells, Seneschal of the Liberties of Kilkenny, the former making a visitation of his diocese "found by an inquest in which were five knights and other noblemen in great multitude, that in the City of Kilkenny there had long been, and still were, many sorcerers, using divers kinds of

⁷⁶ Grace's Annals.

⁷⁷ See "Presentments of Juries of the County of Waterford," p. 180.

⁷⁸ The Castle of Kilkenny passed later into the hands of the Butlers, by purchase, in 1391.

⁷⁹ This name was subsequently transcribed into English as "White."

⁸⁰ This name has been corrupted into Wall.

witchcraft; to the investigation of which the bishop proceeded, as he was obliged by duty of his office, and found a certain rich lady, called the Lady Alice Le Kyteler, the mother of William Utlagh, with many of her accomplices, involved in various such heresies." Those implicated with the Lady Alice were the son William Utlagh, Robert of Bristol, a clerk, John, Helena, and Sysok Galrussyn, William Payn of Boly, Petronilla of Meath, and her daughter Basla, Alice, the wife of Henry the Smith, Annota Lange, and Eva, of Brownstown; and the following charges were brought against them:—

First—In order to give effect to their sorcery they were accused of totally denying the faith of Christ and of the Church for a year or month, according as the object to be attained was greater or less, so that during the stipulated period they believed in nothing that the Church believed, and abstained from worshipping the body of Christ, from entering a church, from bearing mass, and from participating in the Sacrament.

Second—That they propitiated the demons with sacrifices of living animals, which they divided member from member, and offered, by scattering them in cross roads, to a certain demon called Robin Filius Artis, who was "one of the poorer class of hell."

Third—That they had by their sorceries sought counsel and answers from demons.

Fourth—That they used the ceremonies of the Church in their nightly conventicles, pronouncing, with lighted candles of wax, sentences of excommunication even against the persons of their own husbands, naming expressly every member from the sole of the foot to the top of the head, and at length extinguishing the candles with the exclamation, *Fie! fie! Amen!*

Fifth—That with the intestines and other inner parts of cocks sacrificed to the demons with certain horrible worms, various herbs, the nails of dead men, the hair, bruns, and clothes of children which had died unbaptized, and other things, boiled in the skull of a certain robber, who had been beheaded, on a fire made of oak sticks; that they had made powders and ointments, and also candles of fat boiled in the said skull, with certain charms, which things were to be instrumental in exciting love or hatred, and in killing and otherwise afflicting the bodies of faithful Christians.

Sixth—That the sons and daughters of the four husbands of the Lady Alice Le Kyteler had made their complaint to the bishop, that she, by such sorcery, had procured the death of her husbands, and had so infatuated and charmed them, that they had given all their property to her and to her son, William Utlagh, to the perpetual impoverishment of their own sons and heirs; in so much that her present husband, Sir John de Poer, was reduced to a most miserable state of body by her powders, ointment, and other magical operations; but he, being warned by her maid servant, had secretly taken from his wife the keys of her boxes, and therein found a bag filled with the detestable articles here enumerated, which he sent to the bishop.

Seventh—That there was an unholy connection

between the said Lady Alice and the demon called Robin Filius Artis, who sometimes appeared to her in the form of a cat, sometimes in that of a black shaggy dog, and at others in the form of a black man, with two tall and equally swarthy companions, each carrying an iron rod in his hand.

It is added by some chroniclers that her offering to the demon was nine red cocks and nine peacocks' eyes, at a certain stone bridge at a cross road; that she had a certain ointment with which she rubbed a beam of wood, called a couler, upon which she and her accomplices were carried to any part of the world they listed, without let or hindrance; that she swept the streets of Kilkenny betwixt compleine and twilight, raking all the filth towards the doors of her sonne, William Utlagh, murmuring secretly with her self these words:—

To the house of William, my sonne,

Hide all the wealth of Kilkenny town—
and that in her house was seized a wafer of consecrated bread, on which the name of the devil was written.

Upon hearing those charges the Bishop of Ossory required the Lord Chancellor, Roger Utlagh, then Prior of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and a kinsman of William Utlagh, to issue a writ for the arrest of the accused persons. Instead of complying with this demand, the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem, together with Lord Arnold de Poer, at first endeavoured to dissuade the bishop from proceeding further in this matter, but the latter, determined upon bringing the accused to trial before his court, refused to do so. Thereupon the Prior informed him it was contrary to custom to issue a writ of the kind until the parties had been regularly proceeded against according to secular law, and declined granting the required document. This refusal on the part of the Prior did not deter the bishop, who at once decided to act on his own responsibility. He therefore sent two "apparitors," with a formal attendance of priests, "to the house of William Utlagh, and cited the Lady Alice, who was then residing with her son, to appear before him. This citation Lady Alice and her accomplice thought well to obey, and, submitting themselves to the bishop, they abjured and accepted penance." But their repentance was not of long duration, as they "were very shortly afterwards found to relaps." Thereupon the sentence of excommunication was pronounced against Lady Alice by the bishop; and as her son, William Utlagh, persisted in sheltering her, he was summoned before the Ecclesiastical Court, charged with harbouring one under the ban of the Church. But William Utlagh, having powerful friends, refused to obey the citation, trusting to their influence for protection against the bishop. Amongst the number was Lord Arnold de Poer, who at once repaired to the Priory of Kells in Ossory, where the bishop was then making a visitation, and endeavoured with all the persuasion in his power, to induce the bishop to desist from his proceedings against William Utlagh. All the eloquence of Lord Arnold was of no avail, the bishop turning a deaf ear to his appeals. At last, irritated beyond measure by the fruitless success of his mission, he left the bishop's presence

breathing threats of vengeance against him. Nor were these threats mere idle words on the part of Lord Arnold: for the next morning, as the bishop was about to enter the town of Kells, to continue his visitation in other parts of his diocese, he was seized, according to the seneschal's orders, by Stephen de Poer, sergeant of Iverk, one of his officers, having under his command a body of armed men, and carried to Kilkenny, where he was imprisoned in the castle, and there detained until the day had passed upon which William Utlagh had been summoned to appear.

The incarceration of the bishop caused great excitement, and much sympathy was both expressed and shown for him. Multitudes of all classes visited him, bringing him food and what comfort they could. These demonstrations of sympathy did not tend to mitigate the ire of Lord Arnold; neither were his feelings softened by the reports diligently spread abroad that he had been bribed by William Utlagh to act as he had done towards the bishop, and it was even pretended that one of his guards had been overheard to say to a fellow soldier, "That fair-steed which William Utlagh presented last night to our lord, Lord Arnold, draws well, for it has already drawn the bishop to prison." He therefore, not only ordered the bishop to be more strictly confined, prohibiting the admission of any visitors, save some of the prelate's more particular friends and servants, but also caused a proclamation to be issued calling upon all who had any complaint against the bishop to come forward and state their grievances; and at an inquest held before the justices itinerant, many serious crimes were laid to his charge. No one, however, with the exception of William Utlagh, had the courage to proceed against him.

Meanwhile the bishop placed the whole diocese under an "Interdict."

William Utlagh now proceeded to the archives of Kilkenny, and from thence produced a deed of accusation made some time previous against the bishop, by which he was charged with having defrauded a certain widow of the inheritance of her husband.

When the accusation contained in the deed was made public, the bishop's friends insisted that the document produced was not the original, which had been cancelled, the case having been taken out of the secular court; and they further asserted that William Utlagh had caused a copy to be made concealing the evidence thereof, and that he had rubbed the document produced with his shoes, in order to give the copy the appearance of an old deed. The document was, however, delivered to Lord Arnold, who then offered to release the bishop on condition of his bringing forward sufficient bail to appear and answer the charges contained therein. Thus the bishop refused to do, and after having been detained in prison for 18 days, he was unconditionally set at liberty.

On being released, the bishop went forth in triumph from his prison, arrayed in full pontifical robes, and again immediately cited William Utlagh to appear before his court. Ere, however, the appointed day had arrived, the bishop received a royal writ,

requiring him to appear without delay before Roger Utlagh, Lord Justice of Ireland and Prior of St. John of Jerusalem, under penalty of one thousand pounds, to answer for having placed his diocese under an interdict, and to make his defence against the accusations of Lord Arnold de Poer; at the same time the bishop received a similar summons from William de Rodyard, Dean of St. Patrick's, to present himself before him as the vicarial representative of the Archbishop of Dublin. To these citations the bishop made answer that it would not be safe for him to journey to Dublin, as the way lay through the lands and lordships of his enemy, the Lord Arnold de Poer: he, however, relieved his diocese from the interdict.

On the Monday following the octaves of Easter, the Lord Arnold de Poer, as Seneschal of the Liberties, was holding his court in the Judicial Hall of the City of Kilkenny. Thither the bishop determined to proceed, and there publicly demand the assistance of the secular arm to aid him in seizing the persons accused of sorcery. Being informed of the bishop's intention, Lord Arnold sent to forbid his entering the court at his peril. The bishop, nothing daunted, "robed in his pontificals, bearing the Body of Christ in a vessel of gold," and attended by a numerous retinue of ecclesiastics, presented himself before the tribunal. The tenacity thus shown by the bishop raised the wrath of Lord Arnold to the highest pitch, who then not only overwhelmed the bishop with reproaches and insults, but ordered him to be ignominiously ejected from the hall. Against this summary proceeding the bishop loudly appealed, when at length, by his protests, joined with the intercession of some influential persons, he was permitted to re-enter the court. Upon doing so, however, Lord Arnold ordered him to take his place at the bar allotted for criminals. Upon this the bishop cried out "That Christ had never been treated so before since He stood at the bar before Pontius Pilate." He then called upon Lord Arnold to have the persons accused of sorcery arrested and delivered up to him, and upon the seneschal refusing to comply, he held up the Book of Decretals, saying, "You, Lord Arnold, are a knight, and instructed in letters, and that you may not have the plea of ignorance in this place, we are prepared to show in these Decretals that you and your officials are bound to obey our order in this respect under heavy penalties." To this address Lord Arnold hotly made answer, "Go to the church with your Decretals, and preach there, for here you will not find an attentive audience." But the bishop, far from being intimidated by this reply, at once read aloud the names of the accused, specifying the crimes laid to their charge, and once again calling upon the Seneschal to have them delivered up, retired from the hall. The seneschal now cited the bishop to appear before the parliament about to be held in Dublin. Thither the bishop proceeded, and reached the capital after narrowly escaping divers plots laid by his enemies against his life.

From the Parliament the bishop received but little sympathy, many prelates even showing slight interest in his cause, and by some he was spoken of

as a "truant monk from England," who came to represent the "Island of Saints" as a nest of heretics. But his perseverance was equal to his courage, and after contending with many difficulties he finally overcame the numerous obstacles placed in his way, and obtained the arrest and imprisonment of those who had been accused of sorcery, with the exception of the Lady Alice Le Kyteler, who, aided by her friends, made good her escape. "This business troubled all the clergy of Ireland, the rather for that the lady was supported by noblemen: and lastly conveyed into England, since which time no man wotteth what became of her." Yet it is to be observed, although most Irish historians mention the disappearance of the Lady Alice, John Clyn, who at that time was a friar in Kilkenny, asserts she suffered death for heresy, and says, "she was the first ever known to suffer for that crime in Ireland."

On the prisoners being brought to trial and found guilty, some were publicly flogged through the market place of Kilkenny, others were expelled the diocese, while Petronilla of Meath, after having received six floggings, made a public confession of most of the charges brought against the Lady Alice and against herself, including all whom the bishop had entered into proceedings against, as accomplices of the Lady Alice. In her confession Petronilla asserted that "in all England, perhaps in the whole world, there was not a person more deeply skilled in the practices of sorcery than the Lady Alice Le Kyteler, who had been their mistress and teacher in the art." After this Petronilla was carried outside the city of Kilkenny, and there burned to death before the people.

The bishop now again proceeded against William Utlagh, whom he caused to be summoned before his court held in the Church of St. Mary's, in Kilkenny, and answer the accusations previously brought against him—that of having harboured and concealed one charged with sorcery. "Armed to the teeth with all sorts of armour," and accompanied by a formidable body of men, Utlagh appears before the bishop's court, and demanded a copy of the charges brought against him, which extended through thirty-four chapters, and as no one dared to attempt his arrest he remained the same time at large. Later, however, he appears to have allowed himself to be arrested and imprisoned, and he was "held nine weeks in strict duress, and then, at the suit of the said Arnold de Poer, to the higher powers was delivered," with the sanction of the bishop, by whom he was enjoined, as a reparation for his conduct, to roof the whole of the Cathedral of Kilkenny with lead, from the steeple eastwards, including the chapel of the Blessed Virgin.

The bishop having thus far succeeded in vindicating his slighted authority, now turned his attention towards Lord Arnold de Poer, who throughout had proved himself one of his most strenuous opponents. The bishop not only accused him of heresy, but also passed the sentence of excommunication against him, and even obtained a writ by virtue of which the Lord was arrested and confined in the prison tower of the Castle of Dublin, and when Roger Utlagh, Lord Justice and Prior of

St. John of Jerusalem, ventured to interest himself on behalf of Lord Arnold, the bishop openly accused him of heresy and of aiding and abetting the seneschal with his advice and council. In order to "purge himself of this charge," the Privy Council ordered on the petition of the prior, a "public proclamation to be made for three days, that if any person had a mind to prosecute the said justice they should have protection with freedom and safety to do it. But no person coming forward, the king's writ was issued at the request of the prior, to assemble the peers, bishops, abbots, priors, and mayors of the four cities, viz., Dublin, Cork, Limerick, and Waterford, and also the sheriffs and seneschals, the knights of the shires, and the principal free-men of the City of Dublin." Before this parliament, the prior of St. John of Jerusalem represented that the proceedings of the Bishop of Ossory against the Lord Arnold de Poer "were partial and unjust," that the bishop was "avowing a kinsman of his own who had a quarrel against the seneschal, and that, therefore, the prior, by interesting himself on Lord Arnold's behalf," had only supported the cause of the oppressed." Upon hearing the Prior's statement the Parliament appointed a committee of six, composed of William de Rodyeard, Dean of St. Patrick's, the Abbot of St. Thomas's, the Abbot of St. Mary's, the Prior of Christ Church, Mr. Ellis Lawless, and Mr. Peter Willeby, to enquire into the matter. The witnesses summoned to give evidence before this committee were separately examined, "and every one of them made oath, that the Justice was orthodox, a zealous champion of the faith, and ready to defend it with his life." The committee having reported the result of their investigations, the Parliament solemnly acquitted the Prior of the charges preferred against him by the bishop, and in commemoration of his declared innocence, Roger Utlagh "prepared a sumptuous banquet for all his defenders."

The Parliament now proceeded to examine into accusations brought by the bishop against Lord Arnold. While the investigation was yet pending, the imprisoned seneschal breathed his last A.D. 1328, and dying under the sentence of excommunication "long he lay unburied" in the Dominican Monastery of St. Saviours, in Dublin. It is probable Lord Arnold's remains were received into this monastery out of respect for the memory of his father, Lord Eustace de Poer, Baron of Kells, who had been a benefactor to St. Saviours, and in 1346 had laid the foundation stone of the new choir of the church, which had been accidentally destroyed by fire.

Lord Arnold, besides holding the Barony of Kells in Ossory, and having possessions in the County of Waterford, was likewise lord of the Manors of Kilmehide, Ballyhavenan, Tylagh, Ballytar-in, Boneston, Burgage, Aleyntown, Gracecastle, Crohan, Moytober, and Garth, in the counties of Kilkenny and Tipperary; and in the county of Kildare he was Lord of the Manors of Castlewarry, Ughterard, Countyberbeg, and Lynestown. By Agnes his wife Lord Arnold left a son and heir called Eustace, a Knight of the Golden Spur, who in 1331 married the Lady Estance de Bermingham, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John

de Bermingham, Earl of Louth. Eustace joined Maurice FitzGerald, Earl of Desmond, in his rebellion, and being taken prisoner while defending the Castle of the Island, one of Desmond's strongholds, he was hanged by order of the Lord Justice d'Ulford. His possessions were then confiscated, and the Barony of Kells was granted to Walter de Bermingham. Subsequently, however, his Waterford and Louth possessions were restored to his heirs.

And now as to Richard de Ledrede, Bishop of Ossory. About a year after the tragic end of Lord Arnold, namely, in 1329, an accusation of heresy was brought against him by his metropolitan, Alexander de Bicknor, Archbishop of Dublin. The bishop appealed to the Holy See, and fled the country; thereupon his temporalities were seized into the king's hands. In 1331, at the intercession of one of the cardinals, a writ was issued for his restitution, on condition that he should submit himself in person to the king. With this condition the bishop appears to have complied in about 1339. Ten years later (1349) having excommunicated William de Bromley, Treasurer of Ireland, and having called the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in open court "a false traitor," his temporalities were again confiscated to the Crown; but by "false suggestions" he succeeded in obtaining the king's pardon; but in 1351 "the king revoked and made void his pardon: because he had been subtly circumvented and deceived in granting it." However, about the close of the year 1354, he made his peace with the king, and being received into favour "passed the remainder of his life in great tranquility." Bishop de Ledrede did much towards the embellishment of his cathedral, and obtained permission from the king to demolish three churches without the walls of Kilkenny to build an episcopal palace, which he built at his own expense near the cathedral; at the same time he erected an altar in the cathedral dedicated to the three saints, the churches founded in whose honor he had demolished. Richard de Ledrede died at a very advanced age in 1360, having been forty-two years bishop of Ossory, and was buried at the Gospel side of the high altar in the Cathedral of Kilkenny.

Interesting as the foregoing account of Lord Arnold undoubtedly is, most of my readers will agree, I think, in allowing that a veritable ghost commands more respect and attention than meddlers in magic in the middle age are entitled to in the nineteenth century; and therefore I will lay before them in its entirety the Ghost Story of the House of Curraghmore. It speaks for itself, and needs no comment here:—

John, 7th Lord Power and Curraghmore, and 2nd Earl of Tyrone, was born in the year 1664. While quite a child he was taken over to London by his father, together with Katherine FitzGerald, of Drogheda, Lady of the Decies, to whom his father, Lord Richard, was guardian. Katherine FitzGerald was

the daughter and heiress of John FitzGerald, of Drogheda, Lord of the Decies, by Katherine Power, of Curraghmore, his wife, and consequently niece of the above-mentioned Lord Richard. The latter, anxious to promote the interests of his son, and regardless of the extreme youth of the consins (John then being in his ninth year, and Katherine in her twelfth), caused them to be married by Gilbert Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the chapel of Lambeth, May 1673. Shortly after this event, Lord Richard was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Tyrone and Viscount of Decies, and John, being the Earl's eldest surviving son, bore thenceforth the latter title, while Katherine took her place and subscribed her name as Viscountess Decies. But Katherine, who determined upon having the marriage annulled, appeared on the 10th of May, 1675, before the Archbishop of Canterbury, in company with several witnesses, and made the following protest against it:—"In the name of God, Amen. Whereas, I, Katherine FitzGerald, sole daughter and heir of John FitzGerald, late of the Decies and County of Waterford, within the kingdom of Ireland, deceased, did, on or about the twentieth day of May, Anno Domini, 1673, without due consideration, or the consent of my guardians, intruded by my late father, solemnise or contract marriage or espousals, or rather the shew and forme thereof, with the Right Honourable John, now Lord Decies, then the Honourable John Power, *alias* Le Power, Esquire, an infant of the age of seven years, which said contract was performed and celebrated the day and yeare above said, before his Grace the Most Reverend Father in God, Gilbert, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England and Metropolitan, and divers other witnesses, being now at my own perfect liberty, and having freedom to express my voluntary and spontaneous inclination as to the same, and to set forth the means whereby I was thereunto induced, I do by these presents before your grace, the notary publique, and other witnesses herenoto sub-cribed, protest, averr, and declare for the truth, that the said contract, or rather shew and form thereof, was voidly, and contrary to my own pure will and good liking, obtained from me, and that I had not expressed or given any colour of consent thereunto, had I not been prevailed upon soe to do by imoderate importunity, threats, fear, and the false suggestions of loosing the estate in Ireland descended unto me by the death of my late father; and forasmuch as I have bin hitherto restrained and hindered from the manifestation of my dislike and dissent to the said pretended contract [which, I if had enjoyed my perfect liberty, I should otherwise have done]. I doe by these presents totally and absolutely disclaim, renounce, and recede from the same, and every part thereof, and doe declare that there lies no obligation upon me for either the perfection or consummation of the said pretended espousals or contract of marriage with the said Right Honourable John, Lord Decies, for or by reason of any consent by me pretended to be interposed in manner as aforesaid, but that the same was, and is in itself, null and void, and to all intents and purposes [either in relation to my person or estate] is, and ought to be, esteemed and adjudged as an act utterly invalid and ineffectual, and I do desire the

witnesses here present to bear testimony hereof, and the same may be entered amongst the records and muniments of your grace's principal registry, and letters testimonial, and a public and authentick instrument made, and delivered unto me for the better credit and confirmation of the truth of all and singular the premises.

"Given under my hand and seal this tenth day of May, in the year of our Lord, 1675.—Signed, KATHERINE FITZGERALD."

Notwithstanding this protest against her marriage with Lord Decies, Katherine appears to have remained with her relatives up to March, 1676, when she clandestinely left the house of Arthur Anneley, Earl of Anglesea, the grandfather of Lord Decies, and on "Easter even," 1676-7, she married the Honourable Edward Villiers, Esquire, the eldest son of George, fourth Viscount of Grandison. In the May following, Villiers filed a bill in Clancery in Ireland to oblige the Earl of Tyrone to give up the title deeds of the manors and lands belonging to Katherine, his wife, and to account for the rents. The Earl answered the bill on the 17th of October, 1677, and while admitting that the plaintiffs were married *de facto*, denied that they were so *de jure*, and further recited the fact of Katherine's marriage with his son, and of her clandestinely leaving Lord Anglesea's house. However, the replication in the suit was taken off the file by an order of court, and thus the matter ended. It is to be observed that Katherine FitzGerald in her petition asserts that Lord Decies was younger than he really was.

It was probably some time after the events above related that Lord Decies became acquainted with Miss Hamilton. This lady, born the 23rd of February, 1666, was the Honourable Nichola-Sophia, second daughter and co-heiress of Hugh Hamilton, Lord Baron of Glenawley. It would appear that both Lord Decies and Miss Hamilton had been for some time educated together, and had early imbibed the principles of Deism. Later efforts seem to have been made to eradicate their erroneous ideas, but these efforts appear not to have been altogether successful. Wavering, and in doubt what to believe, they entered into a solemn engagement to the effect that, should it prove possible, the one that should happen to die first would re-appear to the other, and solve the doubts of the survivor. In February, 1687, Miss Hamilton married Sir Tristram Beresford, third Baronet, but this marriage in no way diminished the friendship that had existed between her and Lord Decies. The latter, on the death of his father in the Tower of London, in 1699, succeeded as second Earl of Tyrone. Earl John, however, was not destined long to enjoy the title, for he died in Dublin on the 14th of October, 1693. His body was thence conveyed to Carrickshock, Sligo, and lies buried in the Protestant church of that town.

In the month of October, Anno Domini, 1693, Lady Beresford, with her husband, Sir Tristram, were on a visit at Glibball, in the County of Down, the residence of Sir John MacGill, her brother-in-law, when one morning Sir Tristram remarked that when his lady came down to breakfast her countenance was disturbed; and inquiring of her health, she

assured him she was quite well. He then asked her if she had hurt her wrist. "Have you sprained it?" said he, observing a black riband round it. She answered in the negative, and added, "Let me conjure you, Sir Tristram, never to enquire the cause of my wearing this riband; you will never see me without it. If it concerned you as a husband to know, I would not for a moment conceal it. I never in my life denied you a request, but of this I entreat you to forgive me the refusal, and never to urge me farther on the subject." "Very well," said he, smiling, "since you beg of me so earnestly, I will enquire no more." The conversation here ended; but breakfast was scarce over when Lady Beresford eagerly enquired if the post was come in: she was told it was not. In a few minutes she rang again, and repeated the enquiry: she was again answered as at first, "Do you expect letters?" said Sir Tristram, "that you are so anxious for the arrival of the post." "I do," she said, "I expect to hear that Lord Tyrone is dead; he died last Tuesday at four o'clock." "I never in my life," said Sir Tristram, "believed you to be superstitious; some idle dream has surely thus alarmed you." At that instant the servant entered, and delivered to them a letter sealed with black. "It is as I expected," exclaimed Lady Beresford, "Lord Tyrone is dead." Sir Tristram opened the letter: it came from Lord Tyrone's steward, and contained the melancholy intelligence of his master's death, and on the very day and hour Lady Beresford had before specified.

Sir Tristram begged Lady Beresford to compose herself, and she assured him she felt much easier than she had for a long time, and added: "I can communicate intelligence to you which I know will prove welcome; I can assure you, beyond the possibility of a doubt, that I shall in some months present you with a son." Sir Tristram received this news with the greatest joy. After some months Lady Beresford was delivered of a son, born in July, 1694. (She had before been the mother of only two daughters.) Sir Tristram survived the birth of his son for seven years. After his decease, his widow seldom left home. The only family she visited was that of Jackson, cousins of her late husband. With them she frequently passed a few hours every day,—the rest of her time was spent in solitude,—and she appeared for ever to banish all other society. Mrs. Jackson, however, had a brother, Colonel Richard Gorges, to whom, a few years after Sir Tristram's death, Lady Beresford was married; but the marriage was not a happy one, and after having borne him two sons and two daughters, Lady Beresford insisted upon a separation. They parted for some time, but won over by his supplications, she consented again to reside with him, and became in time the mother of another son. The day on which she had bin in one month, it being the anniversary of her birthday, she sent for her daughter, the Lady Riverston, and a few other friends, amongst whom was Doctor King, Archbishop of Dublin, to request them to spend the day with her. About seven, the clergyman by whom she had been christened, and with whom she had all her lifetime been intimate, came into the room to enquire after her health. She told him she was per-

fectly well, and requested him to spend the day with them—"for," said she, "this is my birthday; I am forty-eight to-day." "No, madam," answered the clergyman, "you are mistaken. Your mother and myself having had many disputes concerning your age, I have at last discovered that I was right. I happened to go last week into the parish where you were born: I searched the register, and find that you are but forty-seven this day." "You have signed my death warrant," she exclaimed. "I have then but a few hours to live; I must therefore entreat you to leave me immediately, as I have something of importance to settle before I die." When the clergyman had left her, Lady Beresford sent to forbid the company coming, and at the same time to request her son Marcus, then aged nineteen years, her daughter, the Lady Riverston, and the Archbishop of Dublin, to come to her apartment immediately. Upon their arrival, having ordered the attendants to quit the room: "I have something," said she, "of the greatest importance to communicate to you before I die. You, my Lord Archbishop, are no stranger to the friendship which subsisted between my Lord Tyrone and myself; we were educated under the same roof, and in the same principles of deism. When the friends into whose hands we afterwards fell endeavoured to persuade us to embrace revealed religion, the arguments, though insufficient to convince, were powerful enough to stagger our former feelings, and to leave us wavering between the two opinions. In this perplexing state of doubt and uncertainty we made a solemn promise to each other, that whichever died first should, if permitted, appear to the other and declare what religion was most acceptable to God. Accordingly, one night while on a visit Gill-hall, when Sir Tristram and myself were in bed, I suddenly awoke and discovered my Lord Tyrone sitting by my bedside. I screamed out, and endeavoured to awake Sir Tristram. 'For heaven's sake,' I exclaimed, 'my Lord Tyrone, by what means, or for what reason came you hither at this time of the night?' 'Have you then forgotten our promise?' said he. 'I died last Tuesday at four o'clock, and have been permitted by the Supreme Being to appear to you, to assure you that the revealed religion is the only one by which we can be saved. I am further suffered to inform you that you will soon bear a son, which it is decreed will marry the heiress of our line. Not many years after his birth, Sir Tristram will die, and you will marry again, and to a man by whose ill-treatment you will be rendered miserable. You will have two sons and two daughters, and afterwards another son, in child-birth of whom you will die, in the forty-seventh year of your age.' 'Just heavens,' I exclaimed, 'and cannot I prevent this?' 'Undoubtedly you may, returned the spirit; 'you are a free agent, and may prevent it as by resisting every temptation to a second marriage; but your passions are strong, you know not their power: hitherto you have had no trials. More I am not permitted to reveal; but if, after this warning, you persist in your infidelity, your lot in another world will be miserable indeed.' 'May I not ask, said I, 'if you are happy?' 'Had I been otherwise,' he replied, 'I should not have been per-

mitted to appear to you.' 'I may then infer that you are happy.' He smiled. 'But how,' said I, 'when morning comes, shall I know that your appearance to me has been real, and not the mere representation of my own imagination?' 'Will not the news of my death convince you?' 'No,' I returned, 'I might have had such a dream, and that dream accidentally come to pass. I will have some stronger proofs of its reality.' 'You shall,' said he, and, waving his hand, the bed curtains, which were of crimson velvet, were instantly drawn through a large iron hoop, by which the tester of the bed was suspended. 'In that,' said he, 'you cannot be mistaken; no mortal arm could have performed this.' 'True,' said I, 'but while sleeping we are often possessed of far more strength than when awake; though waking I could not have done it, asleep I might, and I shall still doubt.' 'Here is a pocket-book; in this,' said he, 'I will write my name with a pencil on one side of the leaves.' 'Still,' said I, 'in the morning I may doubt: though waking I could not imitate your hand, asleep I might.' 'You are hard of belief,' said he. 'It would injure you irreparably to touch you; it is not for spirits to touch mortal flesh.' 'I do not,' said I, 'regard a slight blemish.' 'You are a woman of courage,' replied he, 'hold out your hand.' I did; he struck my wrist—his hand was cold as marble—in a moment the sinews shrank up—every nerve withered. 'Now,' said he, 'while you live, let no mortal eye behold that wrist; to see it is sacrilege.' He stopped. I turned to him again; he was gone. During the time I had conversed with him, my thoughts were perfectly calm and collected; but the moment he was gone I felt chilled with horror; the very bed moved under me. I endeavoured, but in vain, to awake Sir Tristram—all my attempts were ineffectual—and in this state of agitation and terror I lay for some time, when a shower of tears came to my relief, and I dropped asleep. In the morning Sir Tristram arose, and dressed himself as usual, without perceiving the state the curtains remained in. When I awoke, I found Sir Tristram gone down. I arose, and having put on my clothes, went to the gallery adjoining the apartment, and took from thence a long broom [such as cornices are swept with], by the help of which I took down with some difficulty, the curtains, as I imagined their extraordinary position might excite suspicion in the family. I then went to the bureau, took out my pocket-book, and bound a piece of black riband round my wrist. When I came down the agitation of my mind had left an impression upon my countenance too visible to pass unobserved by my husband. He instantly remarked it, and asked the cause. I informed him my Lord Tyrone was no more; that he had died at the hour of four on the preceding Tuesday, and desired him never to question me more respecting the black riband, which he kindly desisted from after. You, my son, as had been foretold, I afterwards brought into the world; and about seven years after your birth, your lamented father expired in my arms. After that melancholy event, I determined, as the only prudent course to avoid the sequel of the prediction regarding myself, for ever to abandon all society—to give up every

pleasure resulting from it—and to pass the rest of my days in solitude and retirement. But few can long endure to exist in a state of perfect sequestration. I renewed an intimacy with a family, and one alone; nor could I then foresee the fatal consequences which afterwards resulted from it. Little did I think that my friend's brother would form the person destined by fate to prove my destruction. In a short time I ceased to regard him with indifference. I endeavoured, by every possible way, to conquer a passion, the fatal effects of which I too well knew. I had fondly imagined that I had overcome its influence, when the evening of one fatal day terminated my fortitude, and plunged me, in a moment, down that abyss which I had so long been meditating how to shun. One day an order came to him to rejoin his regiment, and he came to bid me farewell. The instant he entered the room he fell upon his knees at my feet—told me that he was miserable, and that I alone was the cause. At that moment my fortitude forsook me; I gave myself up for lost; and regarding my fate as inevitable, without farther hesitation consented to an union, the immediate result of which I knew to be misery, and its end death. The conduct of my husband after a few years justified a separation; and I hoped by this means to avoid the fatal sequel of the prophecy. But won over by his reiterated entreaties, I was prevailed upon to pardon, and once more to reside with him, though not till after I had, as I thought, passed my forty-seventh year. But, alas! I have heard from indisputable authority that I have hitherto lain under a mistake with regard to my age, and that I am but forty-seven to-day. Of the near approach of death, then, I entertain not the slightest doubt; but I do not now dread its arrival; for, armed with the sacred precepts of Christianity, I can meet the King of Terrors without dismay; and without fear bid adieu to mortality for ever. When I am dead, as the necessity of concealment closes with my life, I would wish that you, my daughter, should unbind my wrist, take from thence the black riband, and let my son, with yourself, behold it." Lady Beresford here paused for some time, but resuming the conversation, she entreated that her son would behave himself so as to merit the high honour he would in future receive by an union with the Lady Katherine Power, the daughter of the Earl of Tyrone. Lady Beresford then expressed a wish to lay down on the bed, and endeavour to compose herself to sleep. The Lady Riverston and her brother immediately called her domestics, and quitted the room, having first desired them to watch their mistress attentively, and if they observed the smallest change in her, to call instantly. An hour passed, and all was quiet. They listened at the door, and every thing remained still; but in half an hour more a bell rang violently. They flew to her apartment, but before they reached the door they heard the servants exclaim, "Oh she is dead!" The Lady Riverston then bids the servants for a few minutes to quit the room, and herself and her brother approached the bed of their mother. They knelt down by the side of it. The Lady Riverston then lifted up her mother, and untied the riband; the wrist was found exactly as Lady Beresford had

described it—every sinew shrunk, every nerve withered.

Lady Beresford's son, as had been predicted, is since married to the Lady Katherine Power. The black riband and the pocket-book were formerly in the possession of Lady Betty Cobbe, of Newbridge, County Dublin, who resided at Marlborough Buildings, Bath, England, and, during her long life, she was ever ready to attest the truth of this narration, as are to the present hour the whole of the Power and Beresford families.

Lady Betty Cobbe was the sixth daughter of Sir Marcus Beresford, first Earl of Tyrone [so created in consequence of his marriage with Lord Tyrone's daughter], and of Lady Katherine Power, his wife. She married in 1751 Thomas Cobbe, of Newbridge, Esq., in the County of Dublin.

Earl John lies buried in the Protestant Church of Carriek-on-Suir, under a black marble monument, with this inscription:—

"Here lieth the Body of the
Right Honourable JONAS POWER,
Earl of Tyrone,
who died the 14th of October, 1693,
in the 29th year of his
age."

He was succeeded by his brother James, as third Earl, of whom I have treated.

Besides the Donoyle and Curraghmore Houses, there were many other branches of the Power family, notable amongst which I may mention the following:—

1. Carrigphilip and Kilbolane, deriving from Donoyle, the representative of which in the 17th century was Captain David Power, of Kilbolane, and "transplanted" during the Commonwealth, and whose son, Colonel John Power, was M.P. for Charleville in 1659, was attainted as a Jacobite, and, following King James to France, died at St. Germain in 1692, and lies buried there. His son David was High Sheriff for County Galway in 1711, and at his death left an only daughter and heiress, Frances Power, of Corheen, who married, in 1701, Richard Trench, of Garbally, and had issue a son, William Power Keating Trench, of Garbally, created Baron Killeconnell in 1797, Viscount Dunlo in 1801, and Earl of Clancarty in 1803.

2. Carrigaline, Corbenny, Knocklehane. This family sprung from Piers Power, of Carrigphilip, the second son of Nicholas Power, Baron of Donisle, and Sheila, daughter of Sir John Fitzgerald, of Drouana. Piers Power, of Carrigphilip, was father of Sir

Pierce Power, of Carrigaline, Knight, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Boyle, and sister of Richard, first Earl of Cork. They had three sons—Major Roger Power, Richard Power of Carrigaline, and Piers Power of Ballyhane. Major Roger Power, of Knocklahane, and Corbenny, County Cork, the eldest son, in 1645 defended the Castle of Lismore, with 100 of the tenants of the Earl of Cork, his uncle, against the Earl of Castlehaven. All his powder having been spent, he capitulated upon honourable terms, 500 of the besiegers having been previously killed. After the Restoration he was granted lands in the County Wicklow. By his wife, Miss Mansfield (who was probably a member of the old Norman family of Mansfield, or Mandevil, or De Mandeville, of Ballinamultinagh, County Waterford), he had a son, Piers Power, of Knocklahane, whose sons—Roger, Piers, and Milo—were attained in 1691. Nothing is known for certain of their descendants, if any; nor of the descendants of Richard Power, of Carrigaline, brother of Sir Roger, further than his grandchildren. If the descendants of Sir Roger and his brother Richard are extinct, the representation of the House of Donoyle would devolve upon the representative of Piers Power, of Ballyhane, the youngest brother of Sir Roger, who now is Mr. George Beresford Poer, of Ballyhane and Belleville.

3. Knocklahan, Affane, Ballyhane, and Belleville. These houses sprung from Piers Power, of Ballyhane, third and youngest son, as already stated, of Sir Piers Power, of Carrigaline, and his wife, Elizabeth Boyle. This Piers Power, of Ballyhane, married Grace, daughter of Nicholas Osborne, of Cappagh, and was father of Nicholas Power, of Mogeha and Nicholastown. His son, Piers, was of Ballyhane and Affane, and is now represented by Mr. George Beresford Poer, of Ballyhane and Belleville, and his kinsman, Captain William Power, J.P., of Affane.

4. Knockaderry and Snowhill. The former is now extinct, but Snowhill is represented by Joseph O'Neill-Power, Esq., J.P., who, in 1869, married Elizabeth Antonia, daughter of Sir John Ennis, Bart.

5. Faithlegg, Bellevue, and Pembrokestown. These houses are well sustained by the present representatives.

6. Rathgormyke, Kilballykiltie, Bollendysert, and Glen. These branches (of which many pages might be written) are now extinct in the male line, the last representative being Edmund Power, of Springfield, Clonmel, Esq., solicitor, who died a few years ago. In the 17th century, Nicholas Power, of Kilballykiltie, Esq., was "transplanted," with eighteen followers, and his estates confiscated. His third son, Edmund Power, of Curraghkiefly, married Honora, daughter of Richard Power, of Clondonnell, Esq., as already shown, and his eldest daughter Helen married, in 1640, Walter Mansfield, of Ballinamultinagh (the representative of that ancient family), whose descendants now are George Mansfield, Esq., of Morristown-Lattin, County Kildare, and Colonel Eustace Mansfield, of Landscape, near Clonmel.

7. Curraghbahy, Kilfane. Edmund Power, of Curraghbahy, in the Barony of Ballylanya, [now a townland] in the County of Waterford, was the progenitor of this branch. He was a scion of the Adamstown House, which derived from that of Donoyle. His great-great-grandson, John Power, of Tullamain, Esq., was aide-de-camp to Lord Clive at the battle of Plassy. His brother, Richard Power, was a Baron of the Exchequer, and died in 1794. The son of John Power, of Tullamain, was Sir John Power, of Kilfane, created a Baronet in 1836, who is now represented by the present Baronet, his grandson, Sir Richard Power, of Kilfane. The fourth son of the first Baronet was Ambrose, the Venerable Archdeacon of Lismore, who died in 1869, deeply regretted by all classes. His son, Robert Power, Esq., is the present agent of the Duke of Devonshire, and his daughter Mary married Henry Villiers-Stuart, of Dromana, Esq., D.L. and J.P.

8. Curragheen. Of this branch little is known, save that Michael Power, of Curragheen, near Dungarvan, Esq., was father of Edmund Power, of Knockbrit, County Tipperary, J.P. for the Counties Waterford and Tipperary. He died in 1836, leaving by his wife Eleanor, daughter, of Edmund Sheehy,

Esq., two sons and three daughters, viz.—(1) Michael Power, Captain 2nd West India Regiment, who died *sine prole*; (2) Robert Power, Captain 30th Regiment, who married Agnes, daughter of Thomas Brooke, Esq. The daughters were, Margaret, who married, first, March 7, 1804, Maurice St. Leger Farmer, Esq., of Poplar Hall, Captain of the 47th Regiment; and, secondly, on the 16th February, 1818, Charles Gardiner, Earl of Blessington, and died on the 4th June, 1849. This lady ranks among Ireland's famous women, and a most entertaining account of her appeared in the number of the *Lady's Pictorial* newspaper for June 6th, 1891, along with a portrait. The following transcript of the article will be found interesting, I have no doubt:—

Marguerite Power, Countess of Blessington, was born 1789. On both sides of the house she came of what is termed in Ireland the good old stock. Her father was Edmund Power, of Knockbrit, in the Co. of Tipperary, her mother, the daughter of Edmund Sheehy, popularly called Buck Sheehy.

Marguerite was the third child of a numerous family; in her earlier years she showed no signs of the beauty which was remarkable in the other children. She was pallid and weakly, and her delicacy, together with her extremely sensitive organisation and singular precocity of intellect, doomed her, according to the superstitions of the country, to an early grave. The atmosphere in which the frail little creature grew up was most un congenial to the development of her mind. Her father's temper was violent, and his outbursts shook the nerves of the sickly child. Her mother, fond and devoted, was incapable of discerning her finer qualities; and her brothers and sisters, strong in health, boisterous in spirits, were unfit companions for the little sufferer. She lived in a world of her own—a world of dreams and fancies, of perpetual speculation and restless inquiry, which never met an answer. At an early age her imagination began to work, and she would entertain the other children with the tales she invented. So remarkable was her talent in this way that her parents recognised and were proud of it, and would send for her to improvise for the amusement of friends and neighbours.

Meantime, bad days were coming. Mr. Power was a type of the Irishman as existent a hundred and twenty years ago—hotly in temper, extravagant in habits, fond of play, horses, wine, and revelry, inattentive to business, provident in expenditure. Here is his picture, as given by Lady Blessington's biographer:—"A fine-looking man of imposing appearance, demonstrative in the matter of frills and ruffles, much given to the fashions and the wearing of leather breeches and top-boots, his soubriquets were: 'Shiver the Frills,' 'Beau Power,' and 'Buck Power,'

the last being the distinguishing appellation of a man of fashion."

The times were considerably out of joint in poor "Shiver the Frills" day, and it would have required a steadier head than he possessed to steer clear of the rocks and shoals which lay in the path of every Irishman. Mr. Power was a magistrate, the editor of the *Clonmel Gazette*, and a determined upholder of the law; he hunted rebels with ardour, and neglected his own affairs. The *Gazette*, which was not much read, entailed enormous expense, so did the hospitalities of Knockbrit, which were on a generous scale—the house was always full. The usual consequences followed: debts and difficulties, mortgages and foreclosures; frantic efforts at retrieving the position which plunged the unfortunate gentleman still deeper in the mire; in all this the children suffered most. In later years Lady Blessington often related the humiliations to which her father's inability to pay her and her sister's bills at the Clonmel boarding-school exposed the two girls. She was taken home at fourteen, and at once introduced into such society as Tipperary afforded. The town was very gay. Weekly assemblies called coteries were given at the Courthouse, and well attended by the county families, who would arrive in for these entertainments. Here, too, would come the English officers who commanded the troops sent over to keep the rebels in order; these Saxons, as is always the case, fell victims to the dangerous charms of the Irish fair ones. The 97th Regiment was at this time quartered in Tipperary, and two of the officers, Captain Farmer and Major Murray, were specially attracted by Marguerite, who had quite outgrown her childish delicacy, and was more fascinating than her beautiful sister Ellen. Farmer was the best looking, but Marguerite preferred Murray. What followed is hardly creditable. The two men proposed for this mere child—she was barely fifteen—and her parents forced her to marry the one she disliked, because he was the richest. The result of this marriage was lamentable. Marguerite was too young to play the hypocrite. She made no attempt to conceal the aversion she had to the husband forced upon her. Captain Farmer, on his side, was exacting, jealous, and his temper so violent as to be beyond all control. The most terrible scenes took place. He would beat her until the poor child was black and blue from his blows, then lock her up, and leave her without food or fire. At last she managed to escape from this half-madman, and returned to her father's house. Here she was not much better treated. Her sister Ellen, who had not relied that her junior should be the first to marry, now imagined that Marguerite's attractions were interfering with a wealthy suitor, who, before the appearance of the young beauty, had seemed on the point of proposing. She laid her complaint before Mr. Power, who at once took her side and ordered Marguerite to leave his house. She would not, however, return to her husband, but persuaded her brother Michael to accompany her to London, where she established herself in a small house in Manchester-square. Here she soon found many admirers, and her beauty and talents began to be talked of. The fashionable painter Lawrence painted her por-

trait; her charms were sung by the Poet Rogers. She had hosts of admirers; foremost amongst them was a man of note, a *dilettante* nobleman, Lord Blessington, who had already a reputation for gallantry—his affair with the wife of Major Browne was a matter of notoriety; he had married this lady after the death of her husband, and had one daughter and a son, who died shortly after. At the time his friendship with Mrs. Farmer began, he was recently a widower, and there was twenty doubt that he was a dangerous visitor for so young and unprotected a woman. At this moment, however, Captain Farmer most opportunely died suddenly, and the wicked tongues who were beginning to chatter were silenced. As soon as propriety would permit, Lord Blessington made the beautiful widow his countess. They were married in 1817.

Now began a halcyon time for Marguerite; the adored wife of a man who loved her, she should have been happy. She was twenty-eight years old; in the very perfection of that radiant beauty which derived its power over men's minds, not from regularity of feature or charm of colouring, but from the influence of intelligence. One great charm she had in common with Emma Lady Hamilton and Mrs. Jordan, the instant a joyous thought took possession of her mind, it was transmitted, as if by electrical agency, to her face. The girlish joyousness of her laugh—"eclats of Jordan-like mirth; *petits rires folâtres*"—added to her fascination. And her voice! One who knew her said, "With all her beauty and all her talent, the witchery of her voice seemed to me her most exquisite attraction."

The Countess of Blessington's sisters were:—Elenour, who married Charles Manners Sutton, Viscount of Canterbury; and Mary Anne, who married, in 1831, the Count of St. Marsault.

Addenda et Corrigenda.

The surname of the family under our notice has been found variously spelled in the records, viz.:—Pou-caër, Pou-kaër, Poher, Pohaër, Puber, Pouer, Poer, Poore, Poyer, Le Poer, de le Power, de la Poer, and Power.

In the early part of this Memoir, it is stated that *four* of the name of Poher came to Ireland in Henry II.'s reign; but another may be added—namely, Philip le Poher, who, in "Chartæ Privilegiæ et Immunitatis Hiberniæ," page 2, is mentioned as a witness to a deed in 1177. Simon de Poher, one of the five, married Margaret de Cogan. Her name was omitted in the account of him.

Page 11, col. 2, line 39, under John de Poer, fifth Baron of Donoyle, after the words "his father's death," add:—"In 1301, John

de Poher, Baron of Donoyle, sued Peter de Touney for waste and destruction, and dilapidation to the Castle of Donoyle, done during his minority, and also for waste and destruction at Tramore, part of the Manor of Donoyle."

Page 12, col. 2, line 16, after "aided by the O'Driscolls," add:—"For four centuries the port of Waterford had ceased to be a resort, and, perhaps, even a nest of pirates; but its shipping was sometimes the prey of sea-robbers, whenever piracy flourished on the wild south-western coast. The O'Driscolls, a maritime and fierce Irish clan, used their creeks and castles to shelter their own and other piratic vessels; and the trade of Waterford having often suffered at their hands, this city more than once fitted out expeditions in retaliation. The State Papers contain a curious narrative, dated April, 1538, of the treachery of Finuin O'Driscoll, Conochor his son, and Gille Duff, his base son, in seizing a Waterford ship, which they had captured when in distress; and the document describes the revenge taken by the Waterfordians. But this old feud was slight in comparison with the long and lasting animosity between the citizens of Waterford and the great county family of Le Poer. It would seem that this enmity arose when the Lords le Poer, discarding feudal law, assumed the position of Celtic chiefs, and permitted their loose men to plunder the town traders, to make good a claim of yearly black-rent upon the city. Several interesting documents respecting the combined attack, in 1368, of the Powers and O'Driscolls, upon the citizens, and subsequent similar assaults, evidencing the settled rancour borne by the Power family to the inhabitants of their county town, are published in the Miscellany of the Celtic Society. So deadly was this animosity, that verse was enlisted into the service of the townsmen, in order to warn them of their danger, by means of a ballad, which, we are told, became a household song. Sir James Ware has this note at page 94 of Lansdowne MS., No. 418:—"There is in this book [the Book of Ross or Waterford] a long Discourse in Meter, putting the youth of Waterford in mind of harm taken by the

Powers, and wishing them to beware for ye time to come. I have written out ye first staffe only:—

'Yong men of Waterford Iernith now to plai,
For zur mereis plowis had beth away
Seure zur hafelis yt lang habith i lei,
And fend zou of the Powers that walketh by the way
For reds.
For if hi takith zou on and on
From him seapith ther never one
I swer by Christ and St John
That off gorth zur hede.
Now hi walkith, &c.'

It is a pity Sir James Ware did not copy the entire Discourse, as the original is now lost. The second line, commencing 'For zur mereis,' means, 'For your mares and ploughs are led away,' and the third line, 'seure your oats that lieth too long in the field.'—(*Presentments of Irish Grievances, temp. Hen. VIII., p. 194*).

At page 13, col. 2, line 11, under Walter Poer, Baron of Donoyle, after "Ellen, dau. of Sir Piers Poer," add, "Lord of Coroghmore, and sister of Richard, first Lord Le Power and Coroghmore." On same page, col. 2, line 42, under Robert Poer, Baron of Donoile, after "Baron of Burnchurch," add, "who afterwards married Thomas, brother to Richard, Lord Power."

Page 38, line 13 should read—"Lord of Waterford, and in no other way can the four," &c.

The following list of Powers who occupied distinguished positions in the Revolutions of the 17th century, will be a useful addendum to this sketch of the family:—

In King James II.'s Irish Parliament, 1689:—
John Power, of Kilbelone, was M.P. for the Barony of Charleville, County Cork.
John Power, M.P. for County Waterford.

Irishmen who served in the Spanish Army:—
Power, Don Pedro, Captain in French service, 1691, 1714, Regimento D'Irlanda.
Power, Don Pedro, Regimento de Limerick.
Power, Don Juan, Capt., 1715, Regimento de Wauchop.
Power, Don Hugo, Cadet, 1765, Regimento de Ultonia.

The Irish Brigade (from the De la Ponce MSS.)

Power, John, Lieut.-Col. en 1692, Col. en 1695-1701, Reg. de Dublin.
Power, Jean, Sous-Lieut. en 1777-78, Reg. de Dillon.
Power, Sous-Lieut. en 1779, Reg. de Berwick.
Power, Sous-Lieut. en 1784-1786, Reg. de Dillon.
Power, Pierre, Chevalier de St. Louis, Lieut. en 1777, Capt. en 1779.
Power, Lieut. en 1775, Reg. de Bulkeley.

The Colonel of the Regiment de Dublin, in France, was John Power, apparently the same gentleman who had been Lieut.-Colonel to Sir Michael Creagh in Ireland. Another John Power was Lieut.-Colonel to his namesake in France. Richard Power, the sixth Lord, adhered to King James, sat in his Parliament of 1689, and levied a Regiment of Foot, of which he was Colonel in 1690, at the Williamite capture of Cork.

Of the Powers, besides those mentioned, there were in the Irish Army during the War of the Revolution, several Lieut.-Colonels, Captains, Lieutenants, &c., and afterwards various officers in France in the Regiments of Dublin, Dillon, Berwick, and Bulkeley. But the most distinguished of the name abroad, as uniting the honours of the pen with those of the sword, was "Colonel Power, an Irishman by birth, in the Spanish service," who, having been Adjutant-General to the Infant Don Phillip in the War of the Austrian Succession in Italy, published, in two volumes, at Berne, in 1785, "*Tableau de la Guerre de la Pragmatique Sanction en Allemagne et en Italie avec une Relation Originale de l'Expédition de Prince Charles Edouard en Ecosse et en Angleterre,*" &c., the details of the latter enterprise having been communicated, as the Colonel states, either by the Prince himself, or by some of his companions.

FINIS.



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